デミアン症候群
Demian Syndrome
Presents
沖麻実也
CHARA COMICS

PRESENTED・BY・MAMIYA・UKI

デミアン症候群

CONTENTS

Process 1

Process 2

Process 3

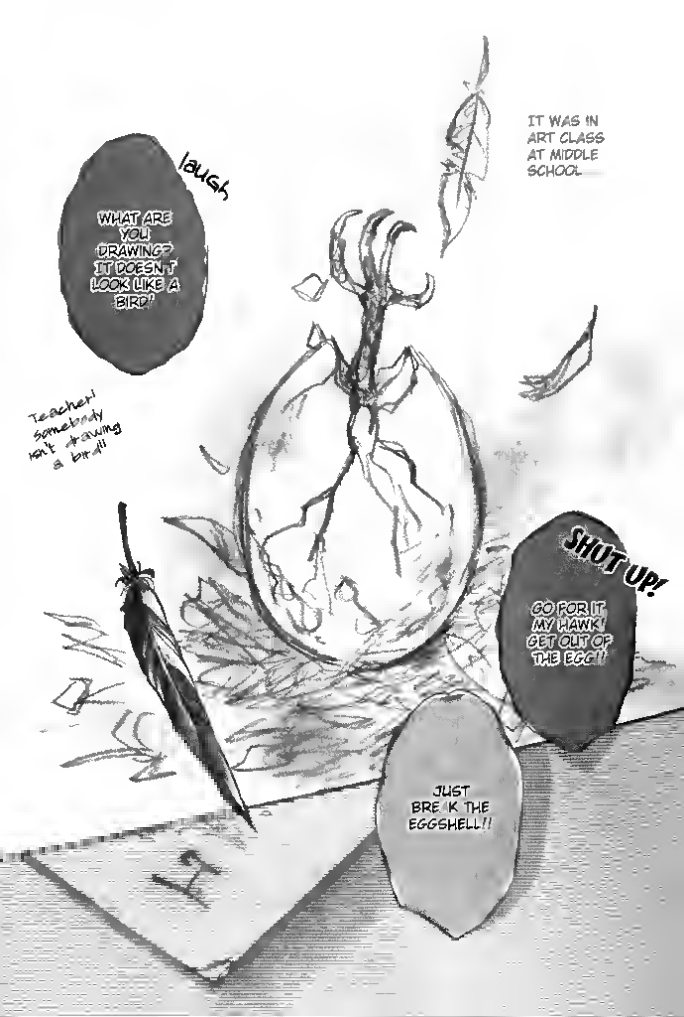
Process 4

Process 5

Process 6

Free Talk

TAMAGE
-KUN
CUBA
SPIRIT DANC
©M.Gehs'
...A,


IT WAS IN ART CLASS AT MIDDLE SCHOOL
laugh
WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING? IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A BIRD!
Teacher! somebody isn't drawing a bird!
SHUT UP!
GO FOR IT MY HAWK! GET OUT OF THE EGG!!
JUST BRE K THE EGGSHELL!!

PROCESS 01
Demian Syndrome

PRESENTED • BY • MAMIYA • OKI

Demian Syndrome

WHAT KIND OF FEELING IS IT, WHEN YOU CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT SOMEBODY?
I DIDN'T LIKE HIM AT FIRST BUT HE BECAME CLOSE TO ME WITHOUT ME NOTICING IT.
step
step
WE COMPETED WITH EACH OTHER, AND THEN I REALIZED...
.. THAT HE WAS THE CENTER OF MY WORLD.
WHEN I WAS A KID, I USED TO BE IN THE HOSPITAL A LOT BECAUSE I HAD ASTHMA...
I ALWAYS TALKED TO THE NURSES THERE. .
— AND MY GRANDMA WAS TOO OLD AND MY DAD WAS TOO BUSY TO TAKE CARE OF ME.
SO YOU LIKE HIM, DON'T YOU?
I CAN UNDER-STAND THAT.

WE DIDN'T HAVE TO SAY A WORD

I LIKED THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP

AT LEAST, I *DID*—

THAT'S ALL.

AND I DIDN'T WANT TO BREAK IT.

- 4 years later in Virginia -
ACTUALLY, JOICHIRO
I HAVE TO MOVE OUT OF WASHINGTON D C TO A DIFFERENT COUNTRY, ON BUSINESS.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
I... I'M GOING TO JAPAN
SCHEDULE / JUNE
Are you coming with me again?
I'M THINKING OF ENROLLING AT JOHOKU AGAIN.
JO, SO...
NOW YOU REGRET COMING HERE WITH ME THREE YEARS AGO?
NO WAY!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IS IT THAT YOU'LL MISS ME?!
I knew you would!
YOU'LL HAVE TO TRANSFER THEN.
WELL, IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU FINALLY REALIZED HOW GREAT THAT SCHOOL IS!
I'M PROUD OF YOU.
No. It's not.

IT'S JUST
THERE IS THIS GUY I REALLY WANT TO SEE AGAIN...
HE HAS BEEN IN MY HEART FOR 3 YEARS
I CAN'T LEAVE THIS FEELING LIKE THIS
OTHERWISE I CAN'T BE MYSELF

THE ONLY GREEN SPOT IN THE SUBURBS OF TOKYO
PRIVATE SCHOOL JOHOKU
Aaaah!
IT'S AS GREEN AS EVER.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M IN TOKYO...
It's bloody hot!
STUSSY
IF THE FOOTBALL GROUNDS WEREN'T RIGHT NEXT TO THE GATE, NOBODY WOULD RECOGNIZE THIS AS A SCHOOL.
AHHH, I WANT TO PLAY FOOTBALL HERE SOON...
It's not fair that only older students are allowed to be there!
KURACHI, YOUR PROBLEM IS WHETHER YOU CAN PASS THIS YEAR
and we're graduating already!
THE STUDENTS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL AREN'T ALLOWED HERE
SHUT UP!!
sound
WHAT?! YOU MEAN I'M NOT GOOD?!
DON'T BE JEALOUS JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT GOOD AT SPORTS!
Uhm...
...you are stupid!

No way!
Kids like us shouldn't read books like that!!
Ehhhh...
WHAT!? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS!
I don't like those kids
J.D. KAR'S "THREE COFFINS"
And "The Stake Court"
BY THE WAY, THIS WAS GREAT...
See!?
I KNEW YOU WOULD SAY THAT
Eh?
WHAT?
Damn man!*
...I CUT IT OUT! YOU DON'T WANT TO BE AS LOW AS KURACHI, DO YOU?
NADAKA
NOTHING
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!
Oops!
THAT'S NOT GOOD
* Doraemon is a Japanese anime character
I STILL FEEL NOSTALGIC AFTER ALL
SHUT UP!!
YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND IF YOU WERE ME!!
MAN, YOU'RE A BAD LOSER!!
OH??
DON'T RUN AWAY NOW!!
WAIT!!
Nooo!
No fucking way!!
This shirt is new!
WHOA!
Drop him in the pond!
The targets are the 11th graders! Get them!
Hey keep out of the business!

Noooooo!
JUST GIVE UP. YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE!
GIVE UP!
Hey!
EXCUSE ME
KHOA!
Shhhhh
!
蹴り?
<cute kick>
Ohhh I remember you!
Fall
HEY!
YOU'RE KURACHI, AREN'T YOU?
HEY!! YOU!!
EH?
WHO are you?
What's that for?!
No!
HE'S GOING TO BE THROWN INTO THE POND BECAUSE IT'S HIS BIRTH-DAY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
Bully
Fuck off, will you!
IT'S OUR SCHOOL CEREMONY
EH?
I SEE
I GET IT
Awwww
YOU SOLD ME OUT!!!

He got kicked earlier
Eh?
HEY!
AH, HE WAS ACTUALLY POPULAR
Throw
OH, SORRY! I JUST SLIPPED AND MY LEG...
JUST WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
YOU...
DID I DO ANYTHING WRONG?!
HE'S A.. TRANSFER STUDENT...?
A punk like him?!
Seriously?!
TRANSFER STUDENT! TAKE OFF THE SUNGLASSES.
YOU'RE ON SCHOOL GROUNDS RIGHT NOW.
YOU THERE!
chirp chirp
Eh?
!
There are so many people here.
HE'S A TRANSFER STUDENT FROM THE 4TH GRADE, STARTING THIS SEMESTER.
KIDO.

RNY
Ah
DIDN'T YOU HEAR HIM?
Ahh Ew! Aw
Stench...
HOW DARE YOU DO THAT TO ME!!
YOU!!
I DON'T KNOW WHO THE HELL YOU ARE, BUT—
I'M NOT KIDDING.
I thought you were in the U.S.!
Don't please tell me you're going to school!
ARE YOU THE TRANSFER STUDENT?!
Taka-yama?!
No way!
HUH?
AZUMA!!
You sound like a teacher
YOU FINALLY DECIDED TO GO TO SCHOOL THEN? AND WHY AREN'T YOU WEARING THE UNIFORM?
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE DORMITORY YESTERDAY AND SCHOOL STARTED TODAY.
...
!

I SEE... SO YOU'RE AZUMA NOW, EH?
...LONG TIME NO SEE.
NICE TO MEET YOU, TAKASHI "AZUMA".
HUH? YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT?
YOU'VE JUST HEARD IT THEN...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE HE CHANGED HIS LAST NAME.
I thought you guys were good friends.

SILENCE...
SS
WAS HE ALWAYS THAT BLUNT?
HE'S KIND ENOUGH TO TAKE ME TO PRINCIPAL'S ROOM,
BUT...
HE'S GOTTEN TALL...
AH, SHIT. YOU REACHED 160 CM FASTER THAN ME!!
I'M TALLER THAN YOU!!
HE!!
YOU'LL SEE. I'LL LOOK DOWN ON YOU IN THE FUTURE!
HEY!

AWW...
SIGH!
I REALLY SHOULD STOP DAY-DREAMING ABOUT THE PAST
THE REAL HIM IS WALKING RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME NOW.
AHHHHH!
I MIGHT BE GOOD AT THE EXAMS.
WE WERE ALWAYS COMPETING WITH EACH OTHER OVER SOMETHING
OH, REALLY? WANNA BET?
Social studies and math
OH!
SURE! WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BET?
!
HUH?
OH
WE'RE HERE.

AM I NERVOUS?
HIS ROOM IS AT THE END, IT'S EASY TO FIND.
HEY!
WAIT A MINUTE!
WELL SEE YOU LATER
TAKE OFF YOUR CAP BEFORE YOU ENTER
AH, OKAY...
IS THAT IT? DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY?!
ARE YOU STILL ANGRY?
DO YOU MEAN THAT I HAVEN'T BEEN NICE TO YOU? I JUST TOOK YOU TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.
ABOUT... ME NOT TELLING YOU THAT I WAS MOVING TO THE STATES?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
NO... THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...

EH?
WHA...?
WEL-
COME
BACK...
"JO"
TAKA
?
?
THIS IS THE
AMERICAN WAY
OF GREETING,
RIGHT?
ARE YOU
HAPPY
NOW?
WELL,
SEE
YA.

HEH.
HE...!
WHY DID HE LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT?!
HE...!
HE COMPLETELY REFUSED ME!
RIGHT, LET ME SEE...
SO YOU WERE LATE FOR SCHOOL BECAUSE YOU WENT TO THE AIRPORT TO SEE YOUR FATHER OFF?
YES, SIR
I'M SORRY, SIR

I WOULD SAY THAT YOU ARE VERY RESPECTFUL TOWARDS YOUR FATHER...
...BUT THE RULES ARE THERE FOR A REASON, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
SO YOUR DECISION WASN'T VERY WISE
YES SIR, BUT...
I DIDN'T WANT MY FATHER TO LEAVE WITHOUT SAYING GOODBYE IN CASE THE AIRPLANE CRASHED...
EVEN SO, YOU SHOULD HAVE COME TO SCHOOL
INDIVIDUAL, SELFISH ACTIONS OFTEN LIMIT THE FREEDOM OF GROUP ACTIVITIES
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
JOHOKU SCHOOL RESPECTS STUDENTS' AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCY.
I HOPE YOU WILL GET USED TO BEING A STUDENT IN THIS SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
YES SIR.
WHOA..! HE'S VERY STRICT...
I CAN'T SAY I MISTOOK THE DATE...
BUT...
THIS SCHOOL HAS A DIFFERENT POLICY FROM THE OTHER SCHOOLS.
YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT, SINCE YOU GRADUATED FROM OUR JUNIOR SCHOOL...
BOYS SCHOOL IS ESPECIALLY STRICT I RECOMMEND YOU GET USED TO DAILY LIFE AT SCHOOL
Excuse me.
I HAVE A QUESTION.
WHAT IS IT?

SIMPLE QUESTION
HAVE YOU BEEN A PRINCIPAL FOR A LONG TIME?
THE OLD PRINCIPAL WAS WELL...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
HE'S STILL ALIVE, BUT HE IS TOO OLD TO WORK NOW
I BECAME PRINCIPAL TWO YEARS AGO
YOU ASKED ME VERY DIRECTLY. I THINK THAT'S A GOOD ATTITUDE. I HOPE YOU WON'T GIVE IT UP
I SHOOK HANDS WITH HIM
(MAYBE HE'S NOT SUCH A BAD GUY AFTER ALL?)
NICE TALKING TO YOU, JOICHIRO TAKAYAMA.

I DON'T KNOW. BUT THINGS CHANGE, YOU KNOW
HEY, KURACHI YEAH...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IS THE MEETING FINISHED?
Oh, you changed your shirt?
I liked the old principal better though!
Well he was old anyway
MR JIN... HE WAS ENERGETIC WASN'T HE?
HE DOES THE SAME THING TO ALL THE FRESHMEN AT THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY.
Me too
Yeah
I EVEN SHOOK HANDS WITH HIM
Just like handing over the welcome address, graduation certificate
Yuck
ALL OF THEM?
I GOT OFF EASY THIS TIME.
So that's why I'm here
IT'S ALMOST LUNCH-TIME ANYWAY
OH WELL LET'S GO TO THE DORM YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE THERE, RIGHT?
I'll take you there!
YEAH
Junior school
Girls high school
Boys high school
University
here
Only 120 freshmen
YOU KNOW OUR SCHOOL DOESN'T HAVE MANY STUDENTS, RIGHT?
YEAH BUT IT TAKES HIM ABOUT 20 MINUTES TO GET THROUGH WITH IT ANYWAY
All told 1500 students!
Course of Education

Demian Syndrome.

credits chapter #1

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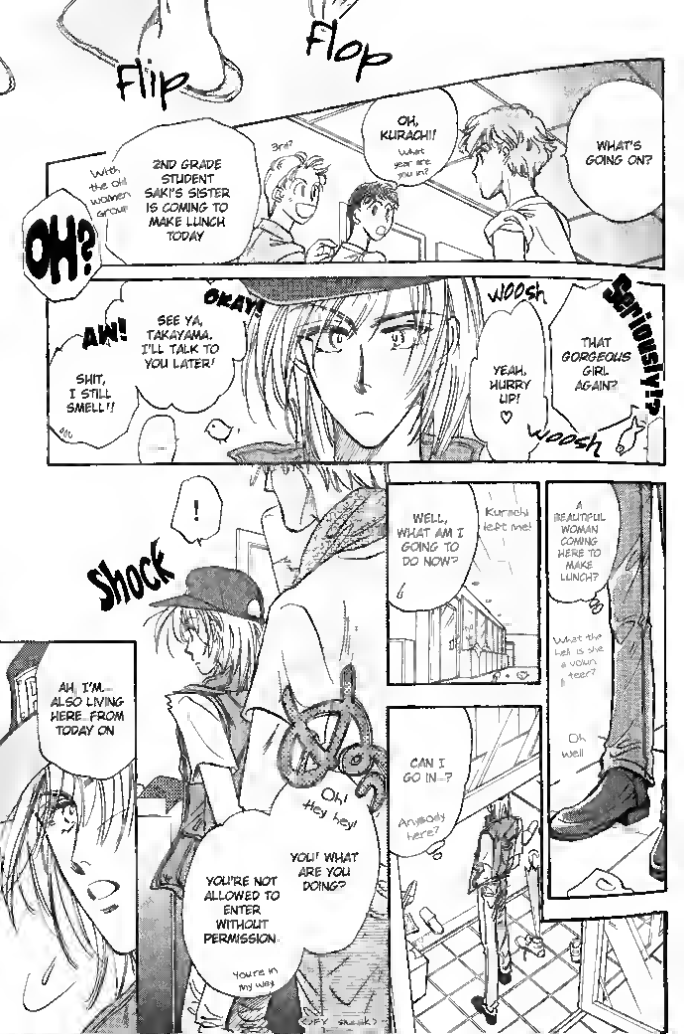
STORM IN HEAVEN
www.stormnheaven.net
stormnheaven.space.orchidway.net

JOHOKU SCHOOL IS OVER 30,000 SQUARE METERS. DID YOU KNOW THAT?
OUR BOYS AREA OCCUPIES ONLY ONE-TENTH...
...THE REST OF THE AREA IS OCCUPIED BY THE GIRLS
Oh, I hear birds singing!
TEACHERS IN THE GIRLS SCHOOL ARE SCARY BE CAREFUL!
Don't sneak into the school!
YOU KNOW A LOT, DON'T YOU?
Naturally dems as much stuff as you do.
HEHE WE ACTUALLY MEASURED IT UP DURING CLASS LAST YEAR
Oh,!
MEASURED IT UP?
ARE YOU GOING HOME NOW, CHIBA?
What's the use of a s was that?
It's hot today, isn't it?
Yeah.
Oh...
WHERE IS TASUKU?
MAYBE HE'S IN THE DORM ALREADY?
I DON'T KNOW
Nah.
Did you see him?
AND YOU ARE... THE TRANSFER STUDENT?
EH?
Eh,?
AHAHA, REALLY??
YOU WERE THROWN INTO THE POND EARLIER!
HA HA HA HA !!
I know you were crying though.
You're a star now.
YOU TRIED TO RESIST IT AT FIRST
You smelled

ARE YOU GOING TO JOIN A SPORT CLUB?
What?!
NO WAY! AND BY THE WAY, WHO IS THIS TASUKU GUY?
EH?!
WHAT? WHAT'S WRONG?
STUSS
AH! NO, NO...
HE NEVER EVEN ATTENDED P.E CLASSES!
HE'S NOT GOOD AT SPORTS!
Well I'll see you later!
YOU HAVE GOOD REFLEXES AND MOTOR SKILLS. NO WONDER TASUKU LIKES YOU.
DO YOU PLAY ANY SPORTS?
YEAH...
Well
That you met... on the train to Keio was...
THAT WAS SOME KICK!
!
SO YOU'RE IN THE FOOTBALL TEAM THEN?
YEAH. ♡
I CAN FINALLY PRACTICE WITH HIM ONCE I BECOME THE 4TH.
WELL, HE IS... THE CAPTAIN OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM, AND HE'S GOOD LOOKING.
He's a very kind person!
Teenage girl talk.
AWWWWWW
I AM TOTALLY STUPID.
What kind of question is that?
Well anyway
HOW ABOUT THE OTHER GUYS? AZUMA?
Just curious!
AZUMA?
I'm taller than Asuka!
WHAT?!
I'VE CHANGED A LOT!
Well, well, everybody is taller.
You want a piece of me!?
...
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ...
Are you a soccer player?
GOOD FOR YOU.
YEAH, I AM.

HE'S ALWAYS DISTANT AND COLD AND HE DOESN'T HANG OUT WITH THE OTHER STUDENTS
HE OFTEN LOOKS DOWN ON US.
...EH?
Nothing's wrong, but
WELL... ACTUALLY...
I...
I DON'T LIKE HIM.
I'M THINKING ABOUT BEING A FRIEND OF YOURS.
WHAT IS IT?
You helped me a lot.
ANYWAY, TAKAYAMA...
THERE'S AT LEAST ONE OF THOSE GUYS IN A CLASS RIGHT?
Like him
Well...
HIS GRADES ARE HIGH HE'S GOOD AT SPORTS AND THE TEACHERS LIKE HIM, SO
HA!
IT ONLY TOOK US 1 MINUTE FROM THE BACK GATE
HERE WE ARE!
DON'T TRY TO BREAK MY WORLD.

THIS BUILDING IS THE DORM "SEIRAN".
I see...
LOOKS GOOD THOUGH ♡
IT'S ACTUALLY PRETTY OLD.
Heiboooo!
25 years old
Yuck
IT'S MESSY...


Flip
Flop
OH?
With the old women around
2ND GRADE STUDENT SAKI'S SISTER IS COMING TO MAKE LUNCH TODAY
3rd?
OH, KURACHI!
What year are you in?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
AW!
SEE YA, TAKAYAMA. I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER!
SHIT, I STILL SMELL!
OKAY!
WOOSH
YEAH, HURRY UP! ♡
Woosh
Seriously!?
THAT GORGEOUS GIRL AGAIN?
Shock
!
AH, I'M... ALSO LIVING HERE FROM TODAY ON
Oh, Hey hey!
YOU!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER WITHOUT PERMISSION.
You're in my way
WELL, WHAT AM I GOING TO DO NOW?
Kurachi left me!
A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN COMING HERE TO MAKE LUNCH?
What the hell is she a young teen?
Oh, well
CAN I GO IN...?
Anybody here?

KANARIYA
天原
!
SO YOU'RE NEW HERE?
AH!
WHERE WERE YOU YESTERDAY?
WE WERE WAITING FOR YOU
You should have called us.
HE'S HUGE!!
Truck size!
YES
Ye.
SHIBA
CAN I JUST PUT THESE BOXES HERE?

Headlights!!
Flip
Flop
Flip
Flop
SHALL WE GO TO YOUR ROOM?
Let me check.
OKAY YOUR NAME'S TAKAYAMA, RIGHT?
YES SIR
CAN YOU WRITE IT ON THE NOTICE BOARD FOR ME?
THANKS A LOT!
R.N.Y
Oh, AZUMA'S HERE.
WE CAN'T FIND ANYBODY BUT YOU!
DON'T CRY BOYS! WHERE IS THE CARE-TAKER OF THE EAST BUILDING?
Eeeh!
18 years old
HELP US!
Please come with us!
The water doesn't stop!
12 years old
THE TAP ON THE 2ND FLOOR OF THE EAST BUILDING IS BROKEN!
OKAY AZUMA, TAKE HIM TO HIS ROOM. IT'S 2E OF THE WEST BUILDING. SEE YA!
OH YEAH?
OH, FUCK
EXCUSE ME!
IF YOU TELL ME MY ROOM NUMBER, I CAN GET THERE BY MYSELF.
You seem really busy right now, so.
STUSSY

HOW UNCOMFORTABLE !
NAH
YOU'RE STILL GOING TO IGNORE YOUR OLD FRIEND. HUH?
I SENT THEM HERE
AH I SEE
ANY LUGGAGE?
I HAVE AN IDEA THEN.
OKAY
WELL ....
OKAY.
THA-NKS
DO YOU HAVE A QUES-TION NOW?
ASK YOUR ROOMMATE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUES-TIONS
NO
TAKE THE STAIRS TO THE WEST BUILDING.
THERE'S A PLAQUE (2E) THERE, SO EVEN SOMEONE STUPID WOULD RECOGNIZE IT.
TAKA-YAMA.

IT'S THE OTHER WAY.
AND TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES.
WHAT?
STUSS
2E
WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING?!
STUSS
Gahhh
!
Again...
THAT'S WHY I HATE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
AL... IT'S TIRING
HELLO! NICE TO MEET YOU. LAST NIGHT...
(blablabla)
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...
(blablabla)
4th
TH... THANKS!
I am Sato!
5th
6th
I am Suzuki.
Time table
WHERE IS MY ROOM...
Anyway
STUSS

tired
bla
bla
Does anyone want me to cook dinner?
I'm gonna go to your room, okay?
PUH!
Stüss
OF COURSE THERE'S AT LEAST SOMEBODY IN THE DORM
grew up with his father and is an only son.
AND I HAVEN'T EVEN TAKEN A SHOWER!
Flip
Flop
That kind of kid will get conceited if he doesn't get a lesson now.
I've got permission from him, so we can do it tonight.
NO.
Maybe after he gets settled in...
Hey!
Isn't it too soon?
Are you sure you're going to do this tonight?

ARE YOU SATISFIED?
SCREW YOU MAN
TAKASHI
"AZUMA"
I'M FINALLY HERE
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT THOUGH
Ding Dong
THE GUY WHOSE NAME I DIDN'T KNOW...
WAS IT ONLY HIS NAME THAT CHANGED?

shock
blink
blink
WHA..?
hold the other side!
OK!
.....
HMM ..?

RUSTLE
What?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I love you too!
I can't believe this
Don't wake up!
Our plan's screwed up!
What are we going to do? Are you going to put it off?
NOPE!
We can't stop now! Let's do it!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
Ahhh, he woke up!
No no no, I'd like you two to be sleeping now!
...you hear that?
You should have been sleeping...
!?!
A freshman must take that!
Tie him up!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME WITHOUT A REASON!
Fuck you!!
それっ!
(celk munch!)

<sfx: slash>
STUPID!
It's a dead end anyway —
Wait!!
Was he really sleeping?
He's quick
<sfx: door open>
WAIT!!
He's in now! Run there!
The guys who were in Jokhiro's way
You...! Wait!
<sfx: rattle>
DAMN!
LOCKED?! IT CLOSES AT NIGHT!?
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO? I DON'T WANT TO GET CAUGHT
OH WELL...
LET'S
EH?
TRY!
The new guy ran away! Catch him!
HEY, KIDO! WHAT'S UP?
A STORM'S COMING
SHOCK
Who
WHAT A GUY!!
HE BROKE THE LOCK ON THE DOOR....
I thought he broken the glass
What?
Hey!
Shut up!
What's wrong?
What's happen?
PALLY-PALLA
PALLY-PALLA
<sfx: click>
<sfx: click>

whoooo
pat
pat
WHY ARE THERE THAT MANY?!
There he is!
Catch him!!
The East building! He's here!!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
SHIT! WHAT KIND OF SCHOOL IS THIS...
The target is on the ground floor and running to the gate through the hall.
He's really fast!
WHAT THE HELL AM I RUNNING AWAY FOR ANYWAY?!
WAAHH!
pat
pat
pat
pat
Now you're ours...
GOT HIM!
!!
bam
Lemon
GRAB
Here he is!

Phew...
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH HIM NOW, KIDO?
pant
pant
Ah... HE IS...!
He's
OF COURSE WE'LL
THROW HIM IN THE POND!
You're so troublesome
Now you recognize me, huh?
Oh, now I remember!
Of course he tried to escape!
HE'S THE GUY I TRIPPED THIS MORNING
Take him outside!
POINT
drop
drop
drop
drop
Leave me alone!!
ONE!
TWO!
Hey
BE CAREFUL!
THE POND ISN'T THAT DEEP!
...
WHAT?!
NOW?!
Ah!
LEADER!
THEY'RE ABOUT TO THROW THE NEW GUY INTO THE POND!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
IT'S 2AM!
Will you guys be able to get up in the morning?

<sfx: splash!>
YES!
HUUUUUU
shake
AW!
THREE!
THUNK
!!
Ewwww stinky
Ptuah
WHAT WAS ?
...HEY, DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING STRANGE?
YEAH
HEY!
My face
Ouch!
KIDO!?
<sfx: splash!>

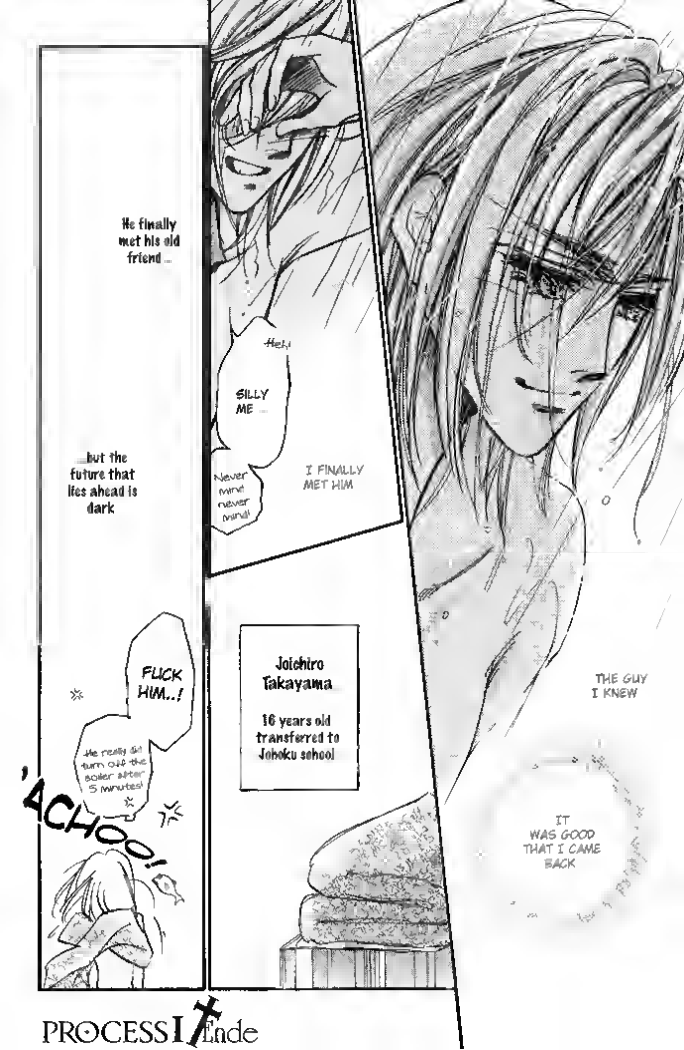
NAH...
I'm not!
YOU WERE IN ON THIS!?
IS IT OKAY TO ATTACK A PERSON WHILE HE'S SLEEPING IF SOMEBODY SAYS IT'S OKAY?!
What a dork!
WHO SAID IT WAS OKAY TO PLAY TAG IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?!
HEY!
YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR.
You guys
But
YOU SAID IT WAS OKAY!
Yeah, right!
NORMAL FRESHMEN AREN'T LIKE YOU
THEY DON'T BREAK THE DOORS OR FIGHT AGAINST SENIORS
THE TEACHER ON NIGHT DUTY IS GOING TO TAKE HIM TO THE HOSPITAL
OKAY
Oh
You're quick.
I called him up
HEY, HE PULLED KIDO WITH HIM INTO THE POND!
KIDO HURT HIS FOOT!
On the edge of the pond
And they also fought today
What!
IT MIGHT BE BRUISED...
Or broken if it's worse...

Hey, hey
calm down!
You know future?
TAKAYAMA?
THEY DID THE SAME THING TO ME WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN
Then I got thrown into the pond
Me too!
Me too
THEY CARRIED ME TO THE POND WHILE I WAS SLEEPING
I WAS TIED UP AND TAKEN TO THE ROOF
I cried like a baby
EH?
ENOUGH'S ENOUGH OKAY?
Ahhh hey!
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU GOT HURT ANYWAY!
Don't set me!
DON'T YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?
Say it!
ACHOO!
I SEE...
smile
It's normal!
SEE?
IT'S KIND OF A CEREMONY ALL THE FRESHMAN HAVE TO GO THROUGH
They also did it to me
drop
LEADER, SHOULD I TAKE HIM TO THE BATHROOM?
HE NEEDS TO TAKE A HOT BATH
Hey!
You guys go to next!
Oh, sure!
OF COURSE
HERE'S THE KEY!
THANK YOU.

AH
AZUMA, THIS IS...
<SFX walking>
YOU CAN GO TO SLEEP, I KNOW WHERE THE BATHROOM IS
THAT'S THE TROUBLE COME WITH ME
WHERE ARE WE GOING ??
WE NEED TO GO TO MY ROOM TO PICK UP CLEAN CLOTHES.
NO MORE TROUBLE! IT'S MIDNIGHT.
IT'S TOO NOISY IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE FIRST FLOOR.
It take them for you
BUT!
HERE WE ARE YOU CAN USE THIS BATHROOM
I'LL TURN OFF THE BOILER AFTER 5 MINUTES.
YOU HAVE TO GET UP IN 3 HOURS SO HURRY UP!
Nope!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
MAKE IT 10!
5
minutes?!
SHUT UP!!
IT'LL BE HARD FOR US TO WAKE UP IN THE MORNING!!
YOU KNOW YOU ARE ..!

I HATE YOU!
SLAM
bang
bang
COUNTING DOWN.....
4.57...

I'M SORRY NADAKA IS STILL SICK IN BED...
GRANDMA, I'M OKAY! KIDS DON'T CARE ABOUT THE RAIN!
Plip
Plip
Oh my!
JOICHIRO!! YOU'RE SOAKED...
OH, DEAR!
I'M SORRY, HE'S STILL...
Cough
MAYBE TOMORROW...
drizzle
turn
SILLY
WE AREN'T KIDS ANYMORE
...


He finally met his old friend...
...but the future that lies ahead is dark
Heh..
SILLY ME...
Never mind never mind!
I FINALLY MET HIM
Joichiro Takayama
16 years old transferred to Johoku school
FUCK HIM..!
He really did turn out the boiler after 5 minutes!
'ACHOO!
THE GUY I KNEW
IT WAS GOOD THAT I CAME BACK

PROCESS I Ende

Demian Syndrome.

credits chapter #1

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There was a slight numbering error on the pages in ch1a and ch1b of Demian Syndrome. Just so you know, although ch1b is numbered as ending on page 46, and ch2 starts on page 54 (which is the correct numbering), no pages were left out. Thanks for understanding and we hope you enjoy the new release!

- the Storm in Heaven Staff

Now
ROOM 1E MUST MOVE TO 1H, IN THE WEST HALL, AND 2E MUST MOVE TO 2H
APOLOGIES TO THE HEADS OF THE ROOMS AND EVERYONE
PLEASE MOVE TOMORROW
What!?
SHIBA, WAIT A MINUTE!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBL!
That's right!!
SHIBA, THE SECOND TERM JUST STARTED!
How annoying!
WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?
Anyway
GO AND COMPLAIN TO THE SCHOOL
IT SEEMS THEY WEREN'T ABLE TO FINISH CONSTRUCTION OVER SUMMER VACATION, AND THEY WANT TO GET IT DONE BEFORE THIS YEAR WRAPS UP.
NOW ROOMS IN THE SEIRAN DORMATORY ARE 25% OFF, SO IT'S A REASONABLE DEMAND
SORRY, BUT GO TELL THE OTHER KIDS IN THE DORMITORY FOR ME.
Thanks!
THESE ARE THE NEW ROOM ASSIGNMENTS!

WHAT?
青嵐寮西側工事に
緊急部屋替え
WHEW! I HADN'T EVEN UNPACKED.
Does this always happen here? Well I don't really mind
I'VE ONLY SPENT 3 DAYS HERE AND I HAVE TO MOVE AGAIN!
TAKA-YAMA!
WHAT'S THIS?
PAT
Freeze...
Just a dorm leader's concern. Get used to school life.
YOU'RE WITH YOUR CLASSMATE AZUMA
HE'S COOL, AND NEVER SLACKS OFF, SO YOU CAN ASK HIM FOR ADVICE.
3A, SOUTH HALL
THEN, WHERE SHOULD I GO?
3A?
!
IDIOT
I was just kicked in the stomach!
Shiya and Shirou were sharing a room with Takayama! Is it...
I'll miss you so...
I have to go to work!
let's start tonight!
EVEN IF IT WAS A SHORT WHILE, I HAD FUN!

SORRY ABOUT BEFORE
FEEL FREE TO USE THE EMPTY DESK AND LOCKER.
BECAUSE THERE'RE LOUSY.
LOUSY?
HEY
I WONDER WHY EVERYONE HATES TWIN ROOMS...
EACH ROOM IS GIVEN JOBS. THE FEWER PEOPLE IN THE ROOM, THE MORE EACH STUDENT IN THAT ROOM HAS TO DO.
WHAT'S MORE, THIS ROOM IS FAR FROM THE ENTRANCE, SO IT'S OFTEN USED AS THE EXTRA ROOM FOR DAY STUDENTS.

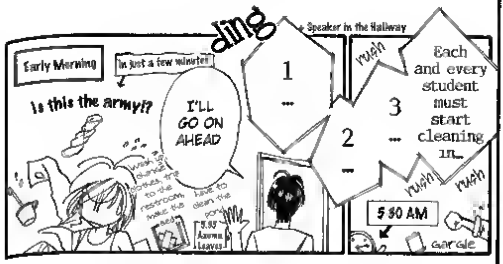
FROM JUST A LITTLE TO VERY.

THE SAME ROOM AS AZUMA

I WONDER IF WE'LL GET ALONG.

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, THAT CON-VERSATION WAS IMPER-SONAL

BUT... IT WOULD BE VERY NICE IF WE COULD FILL THE 3 YEAR GAP.



Breakfast
Students also take turns cooking
Eat Quickly!!
SOUTH HALL, ROOMS 1B AND 3A MUST WASH THE DISHES AFTER THE MEAL
Food for the Students

I THINK IT WILL, BUT...

I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHANCE TO TALK WITH AZUMA UNDER THESE CONDITIONS
I shouldn't avoid him
turn
HANDICRAFT MANUAL
SCOTTISH
Juichiro's stuff is on the other side
sigh
BUT THEN, I JUST FOUND OUT ABOUT HIS NAME CHANGE THE OTHER DAY
THE TEXT-BOOKS ARE ORDERED METHODICALLY BY SUBJECT...
THE BOOK-SHELF ISN'T LIKE "AZUMA" AT ALL
Sigh
zzzz
THIS BOOK-SHELF MUST REPRESENT WHAT HE'S LIKE NOW.
That book looks interesting.
I'll have to borrow it some day.

GET UP, TAKAYAMA. IT'S TIME FOR THE EARLY EVENING SERVICE.
After that's we have to go to a meeting
Aah?
Um
EVERYBODY, HOW WAS YOUR SUMMER VACATION?
Ah
THE SUBJECT OF TODAY'S CLASS IS HERMAN HESSE
"BENEATH THE WHEEL" IS ONE OF HIS FAMOUS WORKS...
THE TEACHER HERE DOES THINGS AT HIS OWN PACE, AND HE'S OLD.
WE GET TIME TO READ? HOW STRANGE
Oh, relax!
His joinves are create, bro.
JUST LIKE THIS, HIS EXPERIENCES AS A CHILD INFLUENCED HIS WORKS
THAT'S ALRIGHT, I CAN FINISH MY MATH HOMEWORK NOW

whispers
WHAT?
he really is stupid, he must not've learned last time.
she's done it again, sweet, sweet, Pamela Ann
WHAT YEAR WAS IT PUBLISHED?
WHAT'S THE SUBTITLE TO "DEMIAN", THE MASTERPIECE OF HIS MIDDLE YEARS?
YOU SEEMED TO BE WORKING HARD ON SOMETHING...
Y... YES
You there!
NEW STUDENT!
Stand up
crap.
NO... YOU'RE RIGHT
.....
...you answer things greatly.
WELL, IS THAT WRONG?
AFTER THE FIRST WORLD WAR, HE SECRETLY PUBLISHED IT, AS AN UNKNOWN WRITER, AND HE WAS AMAZED AT THE POPULARITY IT GAINED AMONG THE GERMAN YOUTH OF THE TIME
Ahem
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER IF YOU WERE LISTENING IN CLASS... DO YOU KNOW?
Although a person's looks are important, you should be talking. Literature runs on inability!
THE STORY OF EMIL SINCLAIR'S YOUTH
BECAUSE THAT NOVEL IS...
THROUGH HIS LIFE-LONG FRIEND AND LEADER, MAX DEMIAN
IT'S A STORY WHERE THE MAIN CHARACTER AWAKENS TO HIS IDENTITY...
Ah
THROUGH HIS WORK, HESSE HAS...
Eh
Ahem!
TAKE YOUR SEAT
You're almost right
I'M GLAD I LEARNED THAT BEFORE
HUFF

AZUMA!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR? I COULDN'T HELP BUT LAUGH
IT'S A WONDER THAT A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL IS ALLOWED TO PICK UP "DEMIAN" AS A TEXT!
BY THE WAY, WE'VE READ A LOT OF BOOKS SINCE CHILDHOOD, HAVEN'T WE?
YOU READ ANYTHING INTERESTING LATELY? CAN YOU LEND ME SOME BOOKS AGAIN?
TAKA-YAMA
I REALLY DON'T FEEL A NEED TO REMINISCE ABOUT THE PAST, AND I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO GET ALONG WITH YOU
IF YOU NEED A NEW FRIEND, YOU SHOULD LOOK FOR ONE ELSEWHERE.
WAIT A MINUTE

WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU NEVER ACTED LIKE THIS BEFORE. Right?
BEFORE?
WHAT, DID I HIT A NERVE?
STOP TREATING ME LIKE YOUR BEST FRIEND
WHY WOULD YOU CARE? WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
WE'VE BEEN OUT OF TOUCH FOR THREE YEARS.
I SENT LETTERS!
I SENT THEM, BUT YOU NEVER REPLIED!
I didn't want to say this but—
YOUR LETTERS NEVER CAME.
impassively

SO, WHAT SORT OF A RELATION-SHIP DO YOU WANT WITH ME?
HEH ...
I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT.
I ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT YOU SHOULD LOOK ELSE-WHERE FOR A FRIEND.
I DON'T WANT TO GET CLOSE TO YOU.
What sort? I meant
YOU DON'T SEEM TO LIKE HOW I ACT NOW, BUT...
I CAME TO SEE YOU.
DID YOU HEAR ME!?
Well it's common for friends to part
Here we are again in Jyoukaku but it's meaning-less.
YOU'RE WRO-NG!
I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING. MY MOTHER REMARRIED DURING SPRING VACATION WHEN I WAS TWELVE.
AND YOU WENT OFF TO AMERICA WITH YOUR FATHER.
OUR PARENTS DON'T MATTER.
I CAME HERE ...
I DON'T CARE WHETHER YOUR LAST NAME'S NADAKA OR AZUMA!
TAKA-SHI ...

ALSO, DON'T JUST CALL OUT TO ME INDISCRIMINATELY. IF YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING TO ME, YOU CAN TELL ME IN OUR ROOM.
AH WELL,
I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO DO AND I DON'T WANT TO BE LATE FEEL FREE TO INVITE YOUR "FRIENDS" TO OUR ROOM
EXCUSE ME
DAMMIT!
You're ignoring me!
BANG!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM
IS IT THAT HE DOESN'T WANT TO REMEMBER THE OLD DAYS?
WHAT DO I WANT? A NICE CONVERSATION!?
BAM!
NO!!
IS THAT IT? THAT BASTARD!!
I JUST

AZUMA
FOR THREE YEARS
.....
I DON'T KNOW ...
SLAM
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS HOPING FOR,
BUT YOU'RE TOO STRANGE
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU AT ALL...
I WONDER IF SOMEONE CAN REALLY CHANGE SO EASILY
HEY, FRESHMAN!
IS TAKAYAMA THERE?

TAKA-YAMA?
I THINK HE'S IN THE WORK ROOM RIGHT NOW.
GOT-CHA
HEY.
YOU'RE KIDO'S TUTOR?
tap
tap
tap
VRO
OM
A CHAIR? YOU'LL FINISH IT SOON, RIGHT?
YEAH, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS ADD A FEW MORE NAILS AND SAND IT DOWN
HOW'S YOUR LEG DOING?
COME WITH ME FOR A MINUTE?
WHAT!?

That's last 4 2nd year in high school
WE ESTABLISHED A CUSTOM IN AUTUMN THAT ONLY 4TH AND 5TH CLASS CAN GO.
SORRY ABOUT THIS, BUT THERE ARE EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES
THERE'S A PRACTICE MATCH WITH THE YANAGI SCHOOL ON SATURDAY
BUT CLUBS TAKE TIME AND MONEY!
I'm sorry, sir.
YOU'RE ASKING ME TO JOIN THE SOCCER TEAM!?
ME!?
Just join for a bit.
PLEASE JUST JOIN AND SIT ON THE BENCH, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO PLAY
OKAY!?
We're 6th class
IN SHORT, WE'VE ONLY GOT A FEW PLAYERS, AND NO BACKUPS
I HEARD YOU PLAYED SOME IN AMERICA.
IT'S NOT THAT YOU DON'T LIKE THE GAME, RIGHT?
WELL, YOU'D KNOW ALL ABOUT THAT, WOULDN'T YOU?
HIS LEG WAS BROKEN WHEN HE FELL
EVEN IF YOU ASK, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY
KIDO WAS OUR MOST VALUABLE PLAYER IN 5TH CLASS, BUT...

ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE HIM A FLAT REFUSAL AGAIN EVEN THOUGH HE BEGGED YOU!?
KURA-CHI!?
TAKA-YAMA!
I'M BEGGING YOU...
What a tease
YOU DIDN'T WANT ME TO DO IT EITHER
BUT
Whaaat?
UMM
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE PLEASE JOIN US
YOU JUST DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, AND DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT ANYONE ELSE. I KNOW THAT WELL
DO YOU STILL CARE ABOUT THE THINGS I SAID? ARE YOU EVER GOING TO FORGET THAT!?
Oh
Boy
THOUGH I DON'T HAVE GOOD MEMORIES OF PLAYING IN THE FIELD,
IT'S PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA TO GET OUT AND ABOUT
.....
WELL
I DON'T LIKE PLAYING THE GAME WITHOUT HAVING A FULL TEAM.
THE OLDER PLAYERS WOULD HAVE TO MAKE UP FOR IT.
HEY!
Calm down
Um, that's good
??
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
Chill out!
WE WERE GOING TO JUST BRACE OURSELVES AND PLAY WITH FEWER PEOPLE, BUT.

BY DOING THAT I WON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT EVERYTHING ELSE
SO YOU'LL JOIN US?
YES.
twitch
OKAY, I'LL DO IT.
Great!!
IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU.
SEEMS THE BASKETBALL, BASEBALL, AND RUGBY TEAMS ARE OUT OF LUCK!
WE JUST RECRUITED TAKAYAMA!
Did you say money?
Soldier! Talent money! AND A TRANSFER STUDENT TOO!
HAHAHA
I wonder why? I thought he wasn't going to join any
HE'S FAST AND CHARISMATIC I WISH WE COULD HAVE GOTTEN HIM, HE'D BE A HIT WITH THE GIRLS~~~
Guys!!
SATURDAY
KENSETSU
SOCCER..
IT MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD..
WOW, WHAT A WEAK TEAM
What would be a good position..?
WELL, I CAN SEE WHY THEY DON'T GET MUCH HELP
WHAT ARE THEY THINKING? I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS
Pfffft SO FUNNY!

murmur
AS I SAID THIS MORNING, THE MEN'S SOCCER GAME STARTS AT 2:30 PM ON THE FIELD!
yell
yell
murmur
TURN OUT TO CHEER FOR THEM IF YOU'VE GOT SOME FREE TIME!
I WANT OUR TEAM TO WIN ONCE IN A WHILE.
Soccer members 4th & 5th class don't carry your lunch
SHIT
SO GO!
3A
HEY, YOU'VE GOT THE SOCCER GAME TODAY, DON'T YOU?
BANG!
DON'T YOU HAVE TO EAT?
Z torn
Mornings almost over
SLEEPING'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EATING. IF I'M SLEEPY, THEN I'LL HAVE TO SIT ON THE BENCH
Z zzz
SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU SEEM TO BE PRACTICING HARD.
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOTTEN INTO THE SPIRIT OF THINGS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? ARE YOU, WHO DOESN'T EVEN LIKE THE IDEA OF FRIENDSHIP, INTERESTED IN SOCCER?
EVEN IF YOU ARE JUST THERE TO MAKE THE TEAM BIGGER,
YOU SHOULD PLAY THE GAME

OR MAYBE I SUDDENLY REMEMBER A PERSON WHO TRAINED IN SECRET
.. THAT COULD BE IT

I THINK I SHOULD JUST DO WHAT I WANT TO DO; WHAT I CAN DO
I DON'T WANT TO EXPLAIN MYSELF.
BECAUSE THIS TIME, I WON'T HAVE ANY REGRETS.
HEH,
AND I REMEMBER A CURIOUS FRIEND WHO FOLLOWED THAT PERSON
.....

SHUT
THAT'S THE ONLY THING I LEARNED IN AMERICA...
I'M KIDDING ...
I'm OFF TO the game
SEE Y
.....
How careless.

WOW,♡ WE'RE WINNING!?
That's rare!
Even if there aren't any 6th class students, this is fun!
Yes!!
KURACHI! KICK!
Oh
What are you doing?
RUN
DASH
SINCE WE GOT OUR NEW GOALIE, THE OTHER TEAM HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO SCORE!
He's locking out against Forward Yanagi!
SO CLOSE!
Nooo!
Amazing!
HE STOPPED IT AGAIN! IS THERE REALLY A KID LIKE THIS IN OUR SCHOOL?
Oh my
!!

WHAT —?
HE'S REALLY PLAYING.
But that's an awful play
THERE'S A GOOD NEW FRESH-MAN THIS YEAR
WE'LL DEFINITELY WIN IF THIS KEEPS UP!
Downed players

.....
NUMBER 7 WILL
LAUNCH A DELAYED ATTACK!
!!
FROM THE LEFT!
JO ...!

SLAP
AHHH!
TAKA-YAMA!
DON'T!

BASH
JYOI-CHIRO ...
YOU IDIOT!
!!
TAKA-YAMA!
Hey!
rummage
WHERE'S THAT STRET-CHER!!
HE'S BLEE-DING!
Oh my
What should I do?
COOL IT, HE ONLY CUT HIS FOREHEAD.
HEY, GET OFF OF THE BALL I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE INFIRMARY
We still can't find it
AH!
I think he rammed into the goal post
Are you okay?
yell
yell
HEY.. HE ISN'T MOVING!?
GET A STRETC-HER!!

A... AZUMA!
HOW'S TAKA-YAMA?
ANYWAY, I'LL TAKE HIM FROM HERE...
EH? AHH— Thanks!
HE... DIDN'T CARE ABOUT GETTING HURT...
Whew I'm glad
WE WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO SCORE IF THE BALL HAD BOUNCED OFF OF IT...
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY? HE CRASHED INTO THE POLE TO CATCH THE BALL
What an idiot
Dammit!
.....
PHHT
GO WIN! Get back out there!!
!
RIGHT! I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!

BACK THERE, YOUR RE/CTION WAS DELAYED
IF I..
"TO THE LEFT!! JO...!"
HE HAS A LIGHT CONCUSSION AND A LACERATION ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF HIS HEAD
...
YES, THAT'S EVERYTHING
...
UM.. YES
IF I WAS CLOSER TO THE FIELD?
WHAT IF I'D CALLED TO YOU?

PROCESS 27 Ende

Demian Syndrome.

credits chapter #2

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TAKAYAMA STAYED OUT OF SCHOOL...
FOR ABOUT A WEEK AFTER THE GAME
HEY, YOU WOKE UP?
HI AGAIN
I'M UP BECAUSE I'M BORED, AND I'M JUST ABOUT HEALED
"JUST ABOUT" I WOULD GET IN TROUBLE IF YOU COLLAPSED FROM OVERWORKING YOURSELF
The chief agrees with me.
DO YOU NEED ANYTHING?

NO WAY!
Cheap-skate!
AH—
NOT A PROBLEM
AND A TOOTH-BRUSH
I'M ALSO INTERESTED IN SOME OF THE BOOKS ON YOUR BOOK-SHELF—
BY THE WAY—
AZUMA.
NOTES AND THE HOME-WORK!
I DON'T WANT TO FALL BEHIND IN CLASS
WELL, I'LL GIVE YOU ONE OF MINE
I GUESS YOU'RE NOT A NEAT PERSON, EH?
I'VE MISPLACED IT!
That's not it!
I WONDER WHAT YOU USE IT FOR—
A TOOTH-BRUSH? YOU'VE ALREADY BROKEN YOURS?
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
DON'T WORRY, THIS HAPPENS ALL THE TIME
WELL THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE
No need. I won't.
I'll take care of you if you collapse!
Thanks for everything.
I'M SORRY.
I'M REALLY VERY SORRY— FOR ALL OF THIS

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT ALL THIS?
?
EVEN IF YOU HAD THE BEST INTENTIONS
DO YOU REGRET THAT YOU WERE INJURED IN A MERE PRACTICE MATCH?
I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND A BETTER WAY,
BUT I'LL NEVER REGRET DOING THE BEST THAT I CAN
THAT'S HOW JOICHIRO THINKS
I NEVER REGRET... THE THINGS I DO.

AND ALSO...
I HATE BEING INFLUENCED BY THINGS AROUND ME
WHACK
RATTLE
I DON'T LIKE THINGS I CAN'T CONTROL...
YOU DON'T CHANGE AT ALL

MORNING!
COMEBACK!
& NEW CLOTHES
Eh?
HEY, WHO'RE YOU?
TAKAYAMA, ARE YOU HEALED UP ALREADY?
THAT'S MEAN, DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT
I JUST COUGHED A COUP!
BUT YOU'LL BE GOING BACK TO YOUR ROOM EARLY
I'M BACK IN CLASS, AREN'T I?
YOU HEARD WRONG
I'VE HEARD THAT YOU GO NUTS FOR A WEEK AFTER A BASH ON THE HEAD
YOU STILL ALIVE?
CRASH!
SWAT
That was a good one.
I'VE HEARD YOU WERE ABOUT TO DIE OF PNEUMONIA
THAT'S NOT IT!

HAS HE COMPLETELY RECOVERED? I'M WORRIED HE MIGHT COLLAPSE AGAIN
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I don't know why though...
HE LOOKS FINE HE SAID HE'S OK SO WE HAVE TO BELIEVE HIM.
KURACHI
I KNOW!
THE DAY AFTER THE GAME
TAKAYAMA FINALLY WOKE UP THAT AFTERNOON-
Hey!
STILL ALIVE?

AZUMA, YOU STILL HAVEN'T TOLD HIM ABOUT THAT? YOU'RE SO COLD.
HOW'D THE GAME GO?
Umm...
You crashed into a pole. OF COURSE YOU DO
WHAT ABOUT THAT GOAL?
WHAT?
WHEW! I WAS WORRIED BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WAKE UP
HOW'RE YOU FEELING?
I HAVE A HEADACHE
YOU BLOCKED THAT GOAL!
AS FOR THE GAME WE WON 3-2 DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
HE ISN'T JOKING AROUND.
HE'S REPEATED THE SAME QUESTION TEN TIMES THIS MORNING.
Huh?
WHY'RE YOU ASKING AGAIN?
Why're you acting funny?!
KURACHI
Well WHAT
Then I fixed it with No. 7.
ABOUT THE GOAL?
AND THE GAME?
WHAT?

TAKAYAMA WAS ACTING NEARLY NORMAL IN THE EVENING
AND THEN WHEN WE WERE SURE HE'D COMPLETELY RECOVERED IT HAPPENED AT LUNCH BREAK
How about watching before lunch break?
HEY YOU...
IT'S LIKE HE KEEPS LOSING HIS MEMORY
No way!
YOU'RE SERIOUS?!
ACCORDING TO HIS DIAGNOSIS, HE'LL NATURALLY RECOVER FROM IT AS TIME PASSES
HIS CONCUSSION IS AFFECTING HIS MEMORY
I'M OFF TO COMFORT A STUDENT WHO WAS INJURED IN THE LINE OF DUTY
I don't have enough hands!
SO, HELP ME!
What are you saying?
Are you going to help out?
Bringing lunch for a sick student
Day border
Ah upperclassmen
I'M HELPING AZUMA
Taking stuff to the patients
IT'LL BE GREAT
It's a secret
I'M GOING TO SHOW IT OFF SO WE CAN HAVE A LITTLE FUN
I borrowed it from a friend because it's cool
In your back pocket
WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN THERE?
EH?
KAMETSU

BANG
BANG
DING
DING
DING
DING
DING
DING
YOU CAN HEAR THE CONSTRUCTION EVERYWHERE, CAN'T YOU?
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO BEAR WITH IT. AT LEAST THEY'LL STOP SOON FOR LUNCH BREAK.
Eh? Two people in it? I can't read
I'M GOING AHEAD
Let's hurry and get to the food stalls
HOLD UP!!
BANG
Hey!
TAKA-♪ YAMA!
KIDDING! ARE YOU SURPRISED?
IS THIS COOL OR WHAT? ♡
WHAT?
COLT KING COBRA 6INCH

BANG
AAH
CRASH!!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
?!
AAH!
AAAH!
THONK
TAKA-YAMA?!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
AZUMA!!
AAAH
WHAT HAPPENED?! COME ON.
JO?!
...!
Don't stare at me!
Don't stare at me, stop that!
No!
• SPOKEN IN ENGLISH

!
Don't worry! You'll be all right
Please, don't kill Takashi
?!
Calm down! Nobody's going to be killed
UPSET TAKAYAMA CONTINUED TO RAMBLE
ACCORDING TO HIM, SOME STUDENTS SHOT UP THE SCHOOL IN VIRGINIA THAT TAKAYAMA WENT TO LAST YEAR
YEAH, I HEARD IT FROM TAKAYAMA'S FATHER WHEN HE PHONED IN
HEY...
WELL, THAT SEEMS TO BE HAPPENING A LOT NOWADAYS.
HE WAS INVOLVED IN A SHOOTING?!

WAIT A MINUTE!
HE NEVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
SO...
WELL,
I COULDN'T EVEN IMAGINE THAT.
THERE WERE ALSO SOME FATALITIES
IT SEEMS TAKAYAMA COULDN'T GO TO SCHOOL FOR A BIT BECAUSE OF THE SHOCK.
ANYWAY, HE GOT BACK ON HIS FEET AFTER ALL
AND HAS BEEN LIVING BRAVELY SINCE THEN.
I DON'T THINK HE WANTS TO DWELL ON THAT HORROR...
HIS FATHER SAID WE SHOULDN'T WORRY.
"This time was a mistake."
I AGREE WITH HIM.
WE SHOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO OTHER STUDENTS, EVEN IF IT WERE A MINOR THING.
WE SHOULD TALK WITH TAKAYAMA AFTER HE'S COMPLETELY RECOVERED.
IT'S DECIDED, THEN.
I'll tell the teachers about it later.
THAT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

I SEE YOU KNOW RIGHT FROM WRONG, DON'T YOU?
Azuma's also a student body's only looking at me?!
HEY, I UNDERSTAND, I'M NOT AN IDIOT!
STARE
THEN
I WONDER IF THEY THINK OF ME AS A LITTLE KID ?
KURACHI!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING? LET'S GO TO THE SERVICE! THIS MORNING WE HAVE GROUP WORSHIP. SO WE HAVE TO HIKE TO THE NEW AUDITORIUM.
It's be better hurry or we'll be late.
There's be girls
LOTS OF DIFFERENT THING'S HAPPENED TO TAKAYAMA
LOOK, I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE
BUT HE NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT THAT
WHY'RE YOU LOOKING SO GLUM?

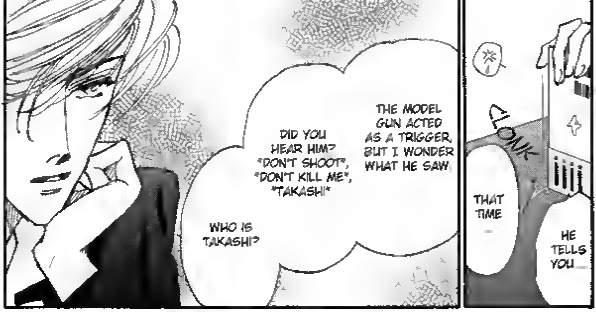
STUPID!
I NEVER WORRY ABOUT YOU, IDIOT!!
BANG!
Just testing!
SHOCK
IT'S
SULK
NOT A WORD...
WELL ...
You are back to normal
SHUT UP!
I WON'T LOSE TO YOU!
HEY
AT ANY RATE, WHEN DID YOU GET INTO SPORTS CLUBS?
Is there a gym in that head of yours?
HUH?
WHA!?
YOU'RE FLUSHED
What's wrong?
YOU ALWAYS BOUNCE RIGHT BACK BUT I'M KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU IN CASE YOU COLLAPSE!
LET'S GO TO THE NEW AUDITORIUM!
OK.
I SHOULDN'T GET DOWN IN THE DUMPS
I LIVE LIFE TO ITS FULLEST AS WELL
WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ADMIRE THE CAMPUS AGAIN
YOU CAME HERE LAST SUMMER, DIDN'T YOU?
I ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THE LEAVES CHANGE COLOR
AUTUMN'S ARRIVED, HASN'T IT?
PART TIME UNIVERSITY PROFESSER

DASH
LEAVE OFF!
ANYWAY, I WIN NO MATTER WHAT SINCE I'M THE FORWARD!!
I didn't mean to do it that hard.
That's horrible.
KURACHI!! YOU STOMPED ON THE BIBLE!!
WAIT!!!
IT'S SO QUIET THIS TIME OF YEAR.

NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, AUTUMN IS ATHLETICS SEASON...
Ah, the very blood of youth.
SIGH

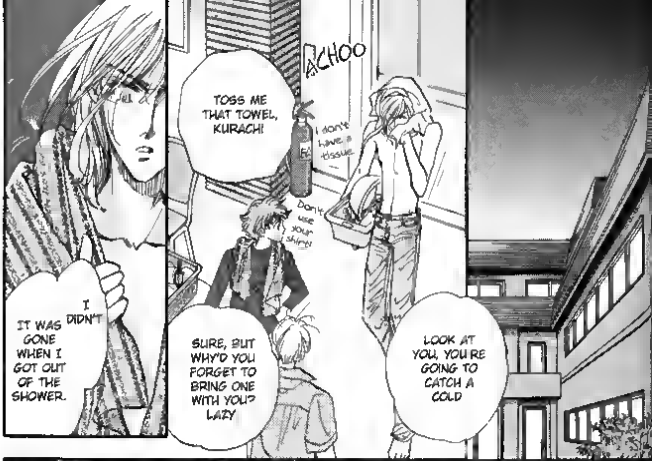
HEY.
I'D LIKE TO BORROW THIS.
Info
SAKURAI
HIS FAMILY NAME

I DIDN'T KNOW THE SOCCER CAPTAIN WAS AN INTELLECTUAL TOO
HAVE YOU READ HIS OTHER WORKS? CAN I COMMENT ON THEM? ♡
I THINK HE'S ALSO REQUIRED FOR SIXTH YEARS
RANK 1
RANK 3
Hey
STEINER? ISN'T HE REQUIRED READING FOR FOURTH YEARS?
QUITE SO
BY THE WAY, WERE YOU AND TAKAYAMA BEST FRIENDS?
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU WERE IN PRIMARY SCHOOL WITH HIM.
REALLY? I LIKE TO MASTER BOTH THE LITERARY AND MILITARY ARTS
NOPE, I HEARD IT FROM KURACHI ♡
HE TELLS ME ALL KINDS OF THINGS ABOUT HIM
Takaya's too defensive.
DID TAKAYAMA SAY SO?
WE CAN'T JUST CONCENTRATE ON SCHOOL, YOU KNOW
There's sports too.
SO I CAN BE THE CAPTAIN AS WELL
---UNDER-STAND?


THE MODEL GUN ACTED AS A TRIGGER, BUT I WONDER WHAT HE SAW
DID YOU HEAR HIM? "DON'T SHOOT", "DON'T KILL ME", "TAKASHI"
WHO IS TAKASHI?
CLONK
THAT TIME
HE TELLS YOU...

I SEE THE INTELLECTUAL SPORTSMAN OF THE SENIOR CLASS HAS TOO MUCH FREE TIME...
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT
DON'T YOU CARE?
YOUR NAME S "TAKASHI" TOO, RIGHT?
Didn't you hear him?

WELL,
ASKING ME WON'T GET YOU ANYWHERE
OH
LOOKS LIKE HE'S OFF
BUT HE'S ALSO PERSISTANT
I BELIEVE IN RESPECTING OTHER PEOPLE'S PRIVACY
I'M JUST INTERESTED IN MY FAVORITE GUY...
HE'S RARE BREED OF PERSON— DON'T YOU THINK SO?

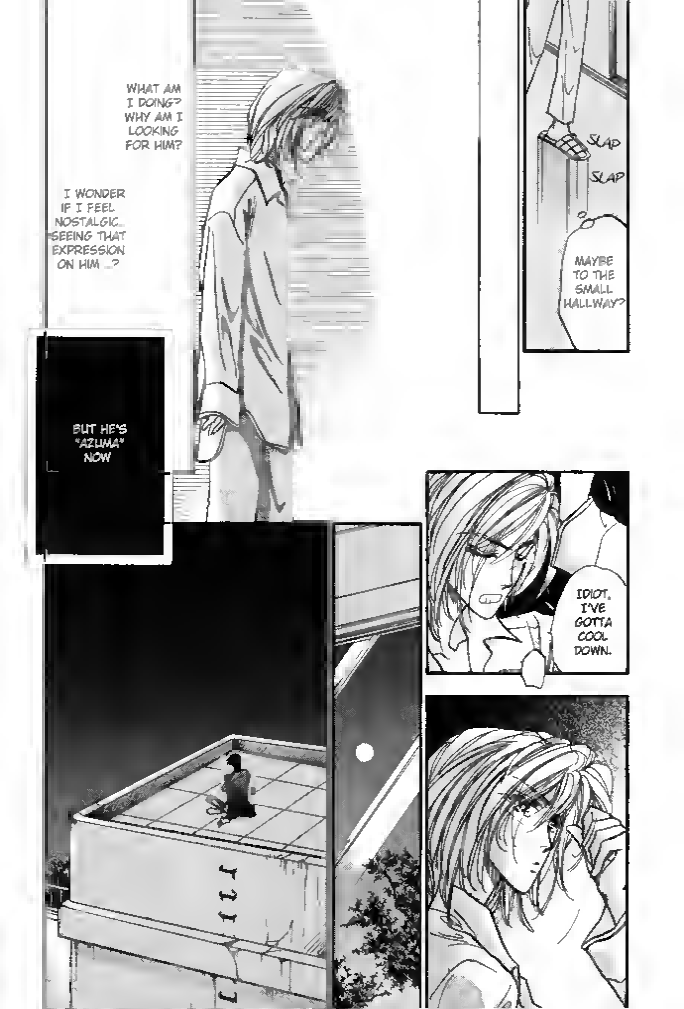

I DIDN'T IT WAS GONE WHEN I GOT OUT OF THE SHOWER.
TOSS ME THAT TOWEL, KURACHI
ACHOO
I don't have a tissue
Don't use your shirt!
SURE, BUT WHY'D YOU FORGET TO BRING ONE WITH YOU? LAZY
LOOK AT YOU, YOU'RE GOING TO CATCH A COLD

Hold up!
AH
YUKI, YUKI!
TAKAYAMA, CARRY IT UP TO ROOM 3A
What?
Tonight's cold
AH
WHAT'S UP? YOU'RE ENERGETIC, AREN'T YOU?
Were you thrown into the pond?

Ohh
YOU HAVE HIM RUN ERRANDS
DON'T WORRY HE'S A SECOND YEAR STUDENT IN MY ROOM.
SURE
Right!
CAN YOU TAKE THESE WITH YOU? PLEASE?
Bath-room stuff
YOU'RE GOING BACK TO YOUR ROOM, RIGHT?
AH..

A CALL ? THAT'S UNUSUAL WHO'S HE TALKING TO?
OH...
YOU RECEIVED MY PACKAGE? YES...
I'LL COME SOON
SURE...
HIS EXPRESSION'S SOFT.
HE'S JUST LIKE HIS OLD SELF
SO HE'S STILL CAPABLE OF THAT EXPRESSION

WHERE'D HE GO?
I have to hit the rest-room.
OUT AGAIN
3A


WHAT AM I DOING? WHY AM I LOOKING FOR HIM?
I WONDER IF I FEEL NOSTALGIC... SEEING THAT EXPRESSION ON HIM ...?
BUT HE'S "AZUMA" NOW
SLAP
SLAP
MAYBE TO THE SMALL HALLWAY?
IDIOT, I'VE GOTTA COOL DOWN.

ON
?!
SINCE THE MOON S—
SO WHITE
ALLEY-OOP!
?!
AAH, AZUMA!?
WOBBLE
NOT IT'S BLUE.
I
WOAH?!
SLIP!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
IT'S MIDNIGHT.
AND WHY'S HE HERE?
Am I an idiot?
PANT
Whew
I SLIPPED
YOU'RE SHOWING ME THAT FACE AGAIN...
...MAYBE I THOUGHT THIS WAS A GOOD PLACE TO LOOK AT THE MOON.
I COULD ASK YOU THE SAME.
I'LL NEVER BE ONE OF THOSE.
YOU'RE AN ODD MODEL STUDENT AREN'T YOU?
ST
OH... MY...
STOLEN KEY FROM THE ROOM LEADER'S KEYBOX.
I put my keys in its place.
JANGLE
BUT THE STAIRWELL DOOR IS ALWAYS LOCKED...
NO ONE ACTUALLY CLIMBS UP HERE LIKE THAT.
Are you sure?
DID YOU CHECK IT? IT ISN'T LOCKED NOW.

YOU'RE A SLY ONE
SMOKING, EVEN... I WONDER IF YOU EVEN THINK OF ME AS A PEER.
YOU ASKED IF I REGRETTED IT, REMEMBER?
WANT TO HEAR MY BIGGEST SECRET?
AZUMA NEVER LOOKED AT ME
BUT...
AT THE TIME...
I THOUGHT OF YOU EVEN MY FRIEND THAT WAS SHOT LOOKED LIKE YOU...
WHEN THAT GUY WAS POINTING A GUN AT ME AND I FELT THE DARKEST DESPAIR...
DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH

I MEAN, THAT'S PROBABLY IT, RIGHT?
SAY SOMETHING!
I'M AN IDIOT
HEY, AZUMA, DO YOU THINK I'M LAME OR WHAT?
I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD DO.
I THOUGHT ABOUT WHY I WAS IN AMERICA.
I WAS GOING TO MOVE FORWARD, START MY OWN LIFE, BUT IT TURNED OUT I COMPLETELY REGRETTED IT.
...TAKAYAMA!
YOUR VOICE IS ECHOING!!
..MY VOICE IS?!
Ha!
DAMNIT.
YOU'RE ALWAYS
THAT'S IT! BECAUSE YOU'D GET IN TROUBLE IF SOMEONE LOOKED UP HERE AND SAW YOU!
YOU'RE JUST A MODEL STUDENT, A SHOW-OFF, EVEN IF YOU PRETEND TO BE A BAD BOY!
THE BEST YOU CAN PULL OFF IS SMOKING UP HERE!
!
THUD

DAMNIT.
JUST GIMMIE A BREAK ALREADY!
PROCESS 3 Ende

Demian Syndrome.

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PROCESS 04

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... YOU!
YOU ALWAYS USED TO BEHAVE LIKE THAT...
YOU'D NEVER ACCEPT IT IF YOU COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THINGS.
I NEVER LIKED PEOPLE LIKE YOU,
BUT ...
...
AZU-MA?
YANK COUGH
I ...
HEH?

I HATE MY PAST!
IT SICKENS ME!
DESPITE THAT...
YOU'RE MAKING ME REMEMBER IT.
YOU KEEP PRESSING YOUR FEELINGS!
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT YOU!!
TO BE HONEST, YOU'RE AN EYESORE.
...
WHAT...?
I SEE
I NEVER KNEW...
I...

WELL...
IT WAS PROBABLY UNEVITABLE THAT I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND YOU,
SINCE YOU NEVER SAY ANYTHING
I KNOW
YOU WERE AVOIDING ME BUT...
Ha Ha
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU HATED ME SO MUCH.
SORRY FOR IMPOSING ON YOU.
YOU WERE NEVER IMPOSING ON ME.
...
SINCE IT HARDLY MATTERS TO ME...
SLAP
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT AT ALL!
DON'T GIVE YOUR HALF-ASSED PITY TO SOMEONE YOU IGNORE!
GRAB
YOU'RE THE WORST!

SORRY FOR BARGING IN!
TAKA-YAMA.
USE THE LADDER. JUMPING'S TOO DANGEROUS.
I HEARD HOW YOU REALLY FEEL
AM I REALLY AN EYESORE?
IF YOU THINK SO, WHY DON'T YOU PUSH ME OFF? I'M SURE YOU'LL BE RELIEVED
WELL, I GUESS YOU JUST DON'T CARE ENOUGH TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
Bye.

WHY WOULD YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
JO...
.....
WHY DID YOU APPE..R IN FRONT OF ME AGAIN?
!
IT'S NOT LIKE I HATED TO SEE HIM
BUT...
I WONDER HOW I COULD SAY SUCH A THING
TO HIM...
IDIOT
My wishes couldn't overcome my inner devil once again
I HAVE TWO PEOPLE DEAR TO ME
WHAT A FOOL ...

MY MOTHER DOTED ON ME
SHE WOULD SIT AND LISTEN TO ME
YOU LOOK MORE AND MORE LIKE YOUR FATHER...
SHE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL HALF THE TIME
I'M GLAD YOU WERE DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL EARLY. HOW DO YOU FEEL?
YOU GREW UP, DIDN'T YOU?
ONE IS MY MOTHER.
TAKASHI
I LOOKED AFTER MY MOTHER
SINCE I HAD NO FATHER.
I HATE BLACKMAIL
BUT IT WASN'T EVEN DIRECTED AT YOU
Uh, it stings
YOU'RE TOO RECKLESS. THAT OTHER GUY WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH. THINK A BIT MORE, WILL YOU?
You're not that strong.
SULK
AND THE OTHER PERSON...
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE HE'S ALWAYS DONE WHAT HE LIKES
I feel better. Those guys were horrible!
BUT IT WAS MY FRIEND WHO WAS THREATENED! I'D DEFINITELY REGRET IT IF I PRETENDED NOT TO SEE ANYTHING!

I THOUGHT I WAS HIS ONLY FRIEND
I agree that they're horrible though.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO HELP FIGURE OUT A WAY TO WIN
NA-DAKA!
I'M ABOUT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GET ALONG WITH PEOPLE LIKE HIM
HE IGNORED ME COMPLETELY
— UNTIL THAT TIME
BECAUSE OF THAT I THOUGHT I WAS AN ADULT WHO COULD PROTECT THEM.
THEY BOTH NEEDED ME
SPRING BREAK HAS ARRIVED
After his grandmother's funeral
JO-ICHIRO?
THAT'S RIGHT, HE WENT TO AMERICA WITH HIS FATHER.
I'M AZUMA. IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU AGAIN, TAKASHI
HE WAS MY MOTHER'S DOCTOR
TAKASHI, IT'S WONDERFUL!
I'M GETTING MARRIED TO A DOCTOR HE'LL TAKE CARE OF ME

BOTH OF THEM CHOSE THEIR OWN PATH, TOSSING ME ASIDE.
I WAS TERRIFIED AT THE THOUGHT OF BEING DESERTED.
I WONDERED IF THAT MADE ME WEAK
IT WAS AS IF I HAD VANISHED...
...THAT WASN'T ME
I WONDERED WHERE I WENT WRONG
I NEEDED TO RECREATE MYSELF
SO YOU'LL LEAVE AFTER ALL?
I DON'T WANT TO INTRUDE ON TWO NEWLY-WEDS
I'VE HEARD GOOD THINGS ABOUT JO-HOKU'S DORMS

BUT
SAY ANYTHING TO JO
YOU'RE A SON OF A BITCH!
I AGREE
IF JOICHIRO'S WITH ME, I—
YOU'RE RIGHT
I CAN'T
YOU NEVER ACTED LIKE THIS BEFORE
I NEVER REGRET THE THINGS I DO
WHEN THAT GUY WAS POINTING A GUN AT ME,
I THOUGHT OF YOU
LONG TIME NO SEE NICE TO MEET YOU TAKASHI "AZUMA"
I CAME HERE TO SEE YOU
...ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING...
GOOD-BYE STEP-FATHER.
TELL MOM I LOVE HER
THE PERSON WHO MOTHER DEPENDS ON ISN'T ME ANYMORE
I FULLY REALIZE MY USELESSNESS WHEN I CALL MYSELF "AZUMA" BUT THAT'S NOT TOO BAD
I WANT TO MAKE MYSELF INTO SOMEONE WHO'S UNAFFECTED BY EVERYTHING AROUND HIM.

The dormitory leader has a single room near the entrance
YAWN
Dammit my sleep was interrupted again
WHAT IDIOT IS WALKING AROUND AT THIS TIME OF DAY?
The door is always locked so how...?
CLACK CLACK
CLACK
!
.....
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
EITHER AN ESCAPEE OR IDIOT NIGHTOWL...
WHAT'S UP? YOU LOOK LIKE DOOMSDAY'S COMING
The leader gets a water heater
What are you doing?
HEY! YOU THERE
TAKA-YAMA?

Probably not
HOME-SICK?
SHIBA
New students get homesick after about a month
WILL THERE BE ANOTHER ROOM CHANGE AFTER THE CONSTRUCTION FINISHES?
WHAT?
DID YOU TWO HAVE A FIGHT?
That happens a lot here
A FIGHT...?
I WOULD RATHER JUST HAVE A FIGHT
IT'S NOT EVEN A FIGHT
AZUMA...?
Well now...
I THOUGHT HE MIGHT CHANGE IF YOU TWO ROOMED TOGETHER.
BUT I GUESS IT WAS WISHFUL THINKING...
...
SHIBA?

WHY WOULD YOU...
I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT AZUMA
I EVEN USED TO SHARE A ROOM WITH HIM.
Well, and other stuff
...
I NOTICED ...
THAT HE NEVER SMILED
BACK THEN, HE WAS A STAR-STUDENT, BUT LOOKED OLDER THAN HE WAS
I THOUGHT HE WAS EASY TO GET ALONG WITH BUT
I'M STILL TRYING TO MAKE HIM
I tell you I never saw him smile once these past four years
EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONCE,
I WANT TO SEE HIM SMILE FROM THE BOTTOM OF HIS HEART.
I...
LIKED IT WHEN HE SMILED.
THAT'S GOOD THEN
Don't ask to change rooms.
BUT I CAN'T MAKE HIM ...

GRAB
HEY!
BAM!
WHAT A PITIFUL FACE!
YOU!
I'M REALLY ISOLATED FROM HIM.
THERE'S NO PLACE FOR ME IN AZUMA'S THOUGHTS
WELL
SQUEEZE
Ugh.
You're a sly rascal?
MUSTER YOUR COURAGE.
Hey!
THAT ISN'T IMPOSSIBLE, EVEN IN SUCH A PEACEFUL SCHOOL.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED WITH HIM, BUT HE SCARED YOU TO DEATH, DIDN'T HE?
Stah
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
Geez!
I GET IT, NOW GET OFF ME! OWWW!
My ears!
YOU UNDER-STAND, BRAT?
SHUT UP!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU
Put some saint in it
Eavesdrop Old Fart!
SHIBA
...

...you're acting like my dad.
...wow!
The dorm leader gets up early.
GO TO SLEEP ALREADY.
I HAVE TO GET UP AT 5:15
MUSS
THOSE PAINFUL THINGS ...
BUT I LET AZUMA SAY ...
EVEN IF I WANT TO LEAVE, I SHOULD STAY AT JOHOKU
Ding
11
3
2
Wake up!
Start your chores in
SWISH
SWISH

Excuse me...
PLEASE DON'T MIX THE GRAVEL AND LEAVES TOGETHER
It's so incredibly boring
CLEANING THE BACK OF THE DORMS...
WHAT AM I DOING?
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
CATTLE
CATTLE
SWISH
SINCE...
Ahh
WE HAVE TO MAKE COMPOST...
Umm
WITH IT.
EXCUSE ME TAKAYAMA, BUT...
I SEE
I'M YUKI, KAORU YUKI, A SECOND YEAR STUDENT...
WHO ARE YOU?
Ahhh
MUMBLE
GATHERED
CATTLE
SURE.
NO PROBLEM
BUT...
I'll keep it separate.

...YOU'RE SHARING A ROOM WITH AZUMA, AREN'T YOU?
WHAT?
WELL...
IS HE STUDYING ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY?
SINCE...
AZUMA IS SO AMAZING, ISN'T HE?
AMAZING?
OF COURSE! ALL THE TEACHERS THINK SO TOO. THEY SAID THAT AZUMA WILL BE ABLE TO GET INTO OXFORD IN TWO YEARS...
I HEARD HE MIGHT GO TO EATON AS AN EXCHANGE STUDENT... IS THAT TRUE?
Well...
I DON'T KNOW...
I HAVEN'T HEARD ABOUT IT
WHAT?
AH!
THE BELL'S GOING TO RING
It's past 6 AM
AH...
FINISH THIS UP FOR ME!
Thanks!
KICK
SLAM

WRITE THE REPORT
ABOUT WHY YOU WERE OUT LATE YESTERDAY I'LL FILE IT LATER.
SO LONG
OXFORD!! EATON?!
WHY DIDN'T I HEAR ABOUT IT?
Making the bed
WHAT A SHOCK!
CATCH
?!
I JUST GO THROUGH THE DAY LIKE USUAL
IN SHORT, THAT WAS IT
AZUMA HAS A POKERFACE
IT'S LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED
BAM

PROCESS 4 Ende

Demian Syndrome.

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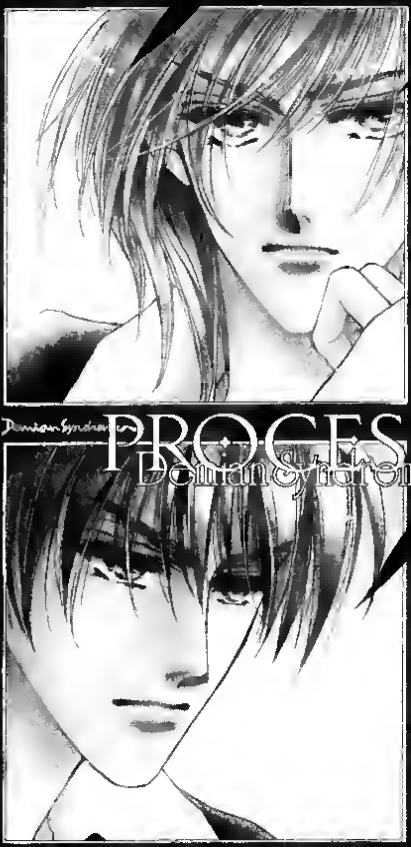

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HEY GUYS, YOU CAN'T RUN LOOSE ON SATURDAY.
HUH?
I'LL NEED YOUR HELP FOR ABOUT AN HOUR
AAA??
I FORGOT THAT MATH FORMULA, AND WE HAVE A TEST TODAY
WELL, THE BAND IS SUPPOSED TO GIVE A PERFORMANCE SOON
WE HAVEN'T HEARD A TUNE FROM THEM YET
LEMME BORROW YOUR GAME BOY
THAT TEACHER WENT ON FOREVER GIVE US A BREAK!
THAT IINBT 4TH YEAR WAS GLARING ALL THE TIME
WAH
WAH
AH
THIS MORNING'S MASS WASN'T TOO BAD, THOUGH.
ARE YOU OKAY?
PROFESSOR AKASEGAWA.
!!
YAH
OH MY!
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
THE CALIBER OF STUDENTS ATTENDING THE BOY'S HIGH SCHOOL IS STEADILY DECLINING
!?
SLIP
HMM?
OH, UMM, YES THANK YOU

I HAVE A QUICK QUESTION FOR YOU.
YOU'VE BEEN HELPING OTHER STUDENTS WRITE THEIR REPORTS, HAVEN'T YOU?
HUH?
WELL EXCUSE ME
HUH
OH
WAIT A MINUTE!
THIS IS MY USUAL ROUTE BUT THE PATH HAS BEEN COVERED IN TOO MUCH MOSS.
OH
YOU'RE AZUMA
YES THAT'S RIGHT
HUFF
HUFF
THOSE STAIRS ARE PRETTY OLD AREN'T THEY?
THEY MUST BE WORN OUT
WELL
LIKE ON THE BOOK REPORTS
FOR EXAMPLE IN THE TOPIC OF HESSE.
YOU WERE NICE ENOUGH TO HELP OUT THAT TRANSFER STUDENT, RIGHT?
COME TO THINK OF IT TAKAYAMA WAS WRITING SOMETHING
NOT ONLY THAT BUT BECAUSE HE SOMEHOW MANAGED TO UNDERSTAND THE SUBJECT OF "DEMIAN"
IT WAS VERY SIMILAR TO YOURS
OH...
I DIDN'T HELP HIM.
HESSE HIMSELF AT THAT TIME WAS ALSO VERY ANGRY ABOUT THAT
IT WAS ONLY THE DESCRIPTIONS ESPECIALLY ABOUT THE SPARROW HAWK, THAT WERE VERY SIMILAR
IT'S A UNIQUE OPINION.
THAT'S
OH, DON'T WORRY I WAS MERELY MAKING AN OBSERVATION
THE WAY THE PAPERS WERE STRUCTURED WAS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

TAKA-YAMA
ISN'T THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO WOULD ASK FOR HELP.
IS THAT SO?
AZUMA?
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
VERY SIMILAR ?
TAKAYAMA AND I ?
THAT'S RIGHT!
WE CHATTED ON THE TOPIC OF "DEMIAN" WHILE COOKING UNTIL WE WERE SICK OF TALKING ABOUT IT
AT THAT TIME WE WERE
WHACK
NON-SENSE!!
AFTER ALL THIS TIME?
VERY SIMILAR
HASN'T THAT CHANGED?
WOW, THE SPARROW HAWK!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
KICKS THE DARK WORLD'S ASS!

SILENCE
CRAP
WHAT AM I EXPECTING NOW ?
THAT WAS SO HARSH
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
I THOUGHT LESSLY BLURTED THE WORD OUT... LIKE PRETTY BOURGEOIS
HEY!
:
YOU'RE AN EYE-SORE!!
IT'S NO BIG DEAL
DRAG
NO WAY! YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!
JUST FOR TODAY
LIKE A CRUTCH
CAN'T WE FIND A BETTER WAY...?
?!

HE...
WHAT DID HE DO THIS MORNING?!
...!
SHUT UP!
ANOTHER INJURY, TAKAYAMA?
OH OH
HOP
THIS IS RARE
AZUMA,
WHAT?!
OH
KURACHI
A BLADE IN HIS SHOE?
WHY WOULD ONE BE THERE?
AND HOW?
ANYWAY, WHAT
IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
OH! YOU MEAN TAKAYAMA'S FOOT?
THAT?
FORGET THE "WHAT"! WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?

SO?
LIKE INSECTS LEFTOVER FOOD AND OTHER GARBAGE
BUT WHEN IT'S DARK OUT IT'S EVEN DARKER DOWNSTAIRS RANDOM WEIRD THINGS END UP DOWN THERE

SO I'M SURE THAT'S HOW THE BLADE ENDED UP IN TAKAYAMA'S SHOE

YOU KNOW THAT IN THE DORM, EVERYBODY LIKES TO MESS UP THE SHOE BOXES
COME ON REALLY!
SILLY
WHO WOULD BE SO STUPID NOWADAYS?
BUT WHY...?
..OKAY. IT'S NOT AS BAD AS IT WAS WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER
I WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST THOSE JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS.

WHAT?!
BUT, I THINK HE MUST HAVE ACCIDENTALLY BECOME THE VICTIM OF SOMEBODY'S HATE CRIME...
OR PROBABLY SOMEBODY JUST DID IT AS A PRACTICAL JOKE.

STARE
?

WILL THE SAME THING HAPPEN AGAIN?
IF IT WASN'T MEANT AS A PRACTICAL JOKE,
WHY WOULD SOMEONE DO THAT?

AZUMA.
IT SEEMS THAT YOU STILL THINK OF HIM AS A FRIEND.
.....
THAT'S A RELIEF. I GUESS YOU STILL CARE ABOUT TAKAYAMA
GIVE IT A LITTLE MORE CONSIDERA-TION.
PAT
THAT GUY'S BEEN HAVING PRETTY BAD LUCK THESE DAYS.
YOU SHOULD BE CAREFULL TOO, AZUMA!
AND HELP FIND THE SUSPECT.
STRETCH

OOH
WOW! YOU'RE FAST
I'M A LITTLE SURPRISED
2
YOU REALLY SAVED ME
SEWING IS MY SPECIALITY
WELL THAT'S THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING RAISED IN A FAMILY WITHOUT ANY WOMEN
THIS BOX IS THE LAST ONE
HEY
HOW'S IT GOING?
YOU'RE NOT AN IDIOT
I JUST DIDN'T NOTICE THE BLADE IN THERE
SINCE I'M AN IDIOT
OF COURSE NOT
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA HOW?
BUT WHAT ABOUT HAPPENED WITH YOUR FOOT

TAKAYAMA..
A LONG TIME AGO
I ONLY HAD ONE FRIEND
OH, BUT IT DOESN'T HURT ANYMORE
ANYWAY IT'S FITTING FOR ME
A SO CALLED "HEAT"
IN THE PAST, I WAS A LONER BECAUSE OF IT
I'M ALL BRAWN, NO BRAINS AND ONLY CAPABLE OF THINKING ABOUT MYSELF
NAH

WHAT KIND OF A RELATIONSHIP DO YOU HAVE WITH AZUMA?
SHOCK
EEE?
WHAT ABOUT AZUMA?
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO SUDDENLY BRING HIM UP?
DIDN'T YOU ENROLL HERE TO SEE HIM?
EH??
DENYING WON'T WORK
AH WOO AAH-WOO
WH WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THAT'S NOT WHY
UM
YOU CLEARLY ANNOUNCED IT AT THE FOOT OF THE READ LEAF SLOPE
DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT? NO ACCIDENTALLY HEARD IT WELL, YOU WERE LOUD
DIDN'T YOU SAY "I CAME TO SEE YOU"? IT'S OKAY
I ALSO HEARD ABOUT IT FROM AZUMA. WE HAD A NICE LITTLE CHAT
AAAAAAH

MAYBE IT'S DIFFICULT, FOR HIM TO EXPRESS HIS LOVE?
THAT OUTBURST WAS HIS WAY OF SHOWING LOVE

AZUMA'S

LOVE?

I... I DON'T KNOW
NO, I DON'T THINK THAT'S IT...
IT WASN'T THAT...
IT WAS...
ONLY NATURAL WB...
SHARED THE SAME SENSE OF VALUES
I BETRAYED THAT SENSE OF VALUE
DESTRO-YED IT
...IN A WAY...
...IT'S OKAY...
I'LL FIND ANOTHER GOOD FRIEND

OKAY, THIS IS OUR SECRET DON'T TELL ANYBODY
OTHERWISE I'LL SEEM LIKE AN IDIOT WHO OBSESSES OVER THE PAST
WHY THE HELL WAS I TALKING ABOUT THAT...?
UGH, THAT WASN'T VERY SMART OF ME
OH!
I'M RAMBLING ON LIKE AN IDIOT
GEEZ, BACK TO WORK
SHOULDN'T I FINISH SEWING ALL THIS STUFF?

I WAS BEING TOO SIMPLE-MINDED

SE
?
GRIN

YOU SHOULDN'T BE AN IDIOT WHO OBSESSES OVER THE PAST.
THIS IS A BETTER IDEA.
GRAB...
!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY JOKER? YOU JERK!!
NO, I'M A REAL JOKER
HA HA
ARE YOU THAT KIND OF A GUY?

WATCH WHERE I YOU STEP!
OWWW
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
STOP GROWLING LIKE A NASTY DOG
TAKAYAMA,
AND YOU, YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THIS BAD HABBIT!
DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR MEAN
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
STOMP
OH, OH HERE COMES THE GENERAL
WE'LL HAVE TO CLEAN UP TONIGHT. PUT YOUR THINGS AWAY!!

SEI-
RAN
DOR-
MA-
TORY
GLUG
GL-
GL-
GLUG
OIL
CLICK
TOSS

AH!
PA... PAPER WASTE?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT FOR YOU
HOW COME A SECOND YEAR IS BURNING TRASH?
JUNIOR-HIGH STUDENTS NEVER DO THIS JOB
CRAB
!
ONLY PAPER WASTE?
HERE, LET ME TAKE CARE OF IT.
!
THIS STUFF HELPS
WHOOSH
WHOA-AH!
IT'S FLYING BACK AT ME.
?
!
WHAT IS IT?
AH!
AH
IT'S OKAY I'LL BETTER DO IT MYSELF
YANK
WAIT
THE FLAME MAY HIT YOU!
HAVEN'T YOU BURNED ANYTHING BEFORE? YOU SHOULDN'T DO IT THAT WAY.
OH
NO-THING
3

THIS SMELL...
AH UHMM
SHOW ME! COULD YOU PLEASE SHOW ME?!
EH?
WOW
SO SURREAL!!
SHOCK
?
?
...
AMAZING!! HOW NEAT!!
UM...
SORRY HERE.
THE TRASH CAN?
AH...
SQUEEZE
UMM BUT THAT WAS SO TYPICAL OF YOU AZUMA.
YOU SAW THAT I WAS UNSURE OF WHAT TO DO JUST A MINUTE AGO.
LIKE A TEACHER YOU EASILY PICKED UP ON IT.
YOU SAVED ME JUST THEN

SO WHAT? SURELY YOU'RE EXAGGERATING. YOU SHOULD MAKE YOUR OWN DECISIONS
NO!
I'M NOT EXAGGERATING, NOT AT ALL!!
IF YOU WEREN'T IN THIS SCHOOL AZUMA, I WOULD LEAVE TOO
HONESTLY
I HAVE NO OTHER FRIENDS
WAAH!
FLATTERY
YOU'RE SO SMART SO CONFIDENT. SO "TA DA"! YOU'RE MY IDOL!!
I CAN TOTALLY TELL!! I'M NOT KIDDING! I'M SERIOUS!
YOU'RE SO COOL! I REALLY THINK YOU'RE LIKE AN "EAGLE WHO'S HIDING ITS TALONS"
YOU'RE SCARING ME ARE YOU INSANE?
YOU REALLY TALK A LOT
WAH! I...
I'M SORRY.
I JUST REALLY WANTED TO TELL YOU SNIFF
BLAH BLAH WHATEVER RIDICULOUS
I'M NOT STALKING YOU, AZUMA. I DIDN'T MEAN TO BOTHER YOU.
OH
SORRY, I GUESS I WAS KIND OF RAMBLING TO YOU
I WON'T BOTHER YOU. PLEASE WORK HARD AS ALWAYS

BOW
ARE YOU OKAY?
HEY, I HEARD YOU BECAME TASUKU'S PET HE KISSED YOU?!
YEAH
SO WHAT? GEEZ
YEAH
YOU DONT WANT TO LEAN ON ME? IT'S YOUR LOSS
YEAH
ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?
WITH A PIECE OF CAKE
WHY THE HELL ARE YOU TAKING IT SO SERIOUSLY?
YOU'RE SUCH A TYPICAL JAPANESE, NO SENSE OF HUMOR
HOP
HOP
OUCH!
THIS SUCKS! GIVE ME A BREAK!!
OWWW!
DAMMIT !!
HOP
SNAP
OW!
OH!
OK. OK. HERE WE GO
KURACHI HELP ME OUT
I'M PRETTY TIRED
SLUMP...

SURE, THERE'S YUKI WHY DO YOU ASK?
EH?
HEY KURACHI, IS THERE A SECOND YEAR STUDENT IN YOUR ROOM?
YOU'RE SO COLD!
WHAT? ARE YOU GOING OUT?
YO!
HEY
NO REASON — WHAT KIND OF GUY IS HE?
WELL I DON'T REALLY KNOW
WHAT HAPPENED? IT'S ODD OF YOU TO ASK
WHAT EVER. IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS
I'M GOING TO MY ROOM
LATER.
AWW
GEEZ
WHY ARE YOU TAKING IT SO SERIOUSLY ALL OF A SUDDEN?
YOU'RE A PAIN IN THE ASS!!
WAIT!
DON'T BE STUPID!!
COME ON, LET'S HELP AZUMA WITH HIS BAGS
I'M FINE
HE'S GOING OUT!
IT'S GOING TO BE HARD TO CLIMB UP TO THE THIRD FLOOR WITH THEM
OH!
AZUMA, GUESS WHAT HAPPENED TO THIS GUY
HE WAS KISSED BY A SENIOR IN THE COMMON ROOM!
SMACK

I NEED ANYBODY TO HELP ME WITH MY LUG-GAGE?
HMPH
DOES IT LOOK LIKE...
SLAP
HA!
A MODEL STUDENT THAT PEOPLE HAVE GREAT EXPECTA-TIONS OF DOESN'T NEED MY HELP
SEE IF I CARE
FINE!
IF YOU ARE LEAVING, THEN MOVE!
OH?
I CAN BE ALONE TONIGHT
?
?
FINE WITH ME
.....
I PRAY THAT WHEN I COME BACK, NOTHING WILL BE BROKEN
GET LOST!!
CLINK
CH

THE SCHOOL? SO-SO
WAS THE FOOD ANY GOOD THERE?
NOBODY... NOT YET?! NO TIME?
SURE
EVERYONE IS SLEEPING.
OH
HERE?
UM, JUST A BIT PAST MIDNIGHT.
BUT THAT'S FINE. I CAN TALK TO DAD SOME OTHER TIME
ME? I'M FINE.
HONESTLY!
—ME? GO TOGETHER?
HOW?
I'M CONFUSED
BUT, IT MAKES MORE SENSE FOR ME TO BE HERE
ENOUGH. IT'S FINE...

PROCESS 5 Ende

Demian Syndrome.

credits chapter #5

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AH... AZUMA?!
WHY
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE OUT TONIGHT
DOESN'T THIS BELONG TO TAKAYAMA?
THIS IS THE OIL...
USED IN THE INCINE-RATOR, ISN'T IT?
WHY...
CLUNK
YOU'RE THE ONE, AREN'T YOU? YOU PUT THE RAZOR IN HIS SHOE?
EVEN FOR A PRANK, THAT'S GOING WAY TOO FAR.
BUT...

BUT.. HE'S A PAIN!
EVER SINCE HE ARRIVED YOU'VE BEEN STRESSED OUT!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
GRAB
BUT YOU HATE HIM, DON'T YOU?
!!
I JUST WANTED HIM TO GO AWAY..
EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T MAKE HIM .
SO...
THIS
SHOCK
!
SO THIS IS...
MY FAULT?
CLICK

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
XX
TAKA-YAMA...
HEY..
DASH!
SLAP
AH!
!

LIMP
LET HIM GO.
THERE'S NOTHING THAT WAY BUT THE ROOF ANYWAY
WHAT HAPPENED?
THAT'S YUKI RIGHT? WHY...
HUH?
THIS IS MY...
!
I SEE
SO HE...
JUST A LITTLE.
DID YOU OVERHEAR HIS?
...OH WELL.
...I'M SORRY.
THIS IS MY PROBLEM, NOT YOURS.

HA HA
I KNOW WHEN I'M BEATEN
KID'S LIKE THAT ARE IMPOSSIBLE
RIGHT?
AND HE WAS RIGHT ANYWAY
TAKAYAMA
AND YOU...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! REALLY...
IT WOULD BE BETTER IF I JUST DISAPPEARED
?!
TAKAYAMA?
WHAT ARE YOU...
HMPH
YOU THINK I DIDN'T KNOW?
YOU'VE BEEN AVOIDING ME SINCE WAY BEFORE I CAME BACK FROM AMERICA.
IT STARTED LONG AGO... AT THE END OF 6TH GRADE
WHEN WE WERE IN PRIMARY SCHOOL
HE WAS RIGHT...

YOU PRETENDED THAT NOTHING HAD HAPPENED
AND I PRETENDED I DIDN'T NOTICE
BUT EVER SINCE THEN, THERE'S BEEN A GAP BETWEEN US
AA-H!
THAT'S WHY YOU CAN—
I BET YOU'RE GLAD IT NEVER WENT FURTHER THAT IT DID
TAKA-YAMA?!
THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED!
I...
SHUT UP!!
YOU DON'T GET IT! IT WAS JUST TOO MUCH!
I CAN'T TAKE IT BACK NOW
I GAVE YOU YOUR ANSWER
AND THAT'S IT
THE END
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
SO LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT IT OKAY?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO!
I HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE BRAT—
GRAB

COME ON, BEFORE EVERYONE WAKES UP!
LET'S JUST GO!
GRIT
SLAP
!
AH
FINE, WHATEVER!
YOUR EXPRESSION IT'S ALL MY FAULT...
WHA WHAT DO I DO?
I CAN'T FACE HIM...
I'M FINISH-ED...
AZUMA...
EMERGENCY EXIT

HEY, DAMN BRAT!
COME OUT SO WE CAN BEAT YOU UP PROPERLY!
HUH?
HE'S NOT HERE?
OPEN
HE'S ON THE ROOF
WHOOSH
THERE'S ONE HELL OF A WIND TONIGHT
DAMN!
WHERE'S HE?
YUKI ...?
!!
AH...

GO... GO AWAY!
I WON'T ...
WAAH!
!
TREMBLE
IDIOT!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?! GET DOWN FROM THERE!!
GOOD GRIEF!
...THAT MORON.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
DAMN IT!
HE'S GOING TO FALL...!
MAYBE A LADDER
NO CHANCE.
RIGHT OF COURSE
I KNOW
DO YOU THINK
HE'S SCREWED
YEAH BUT
THE FOOTHOLD CRUMBLED LONG AGO THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL MAKE IT
LOOK!
HE LOOKS A BIT LIKE A CAT STUCK UP A TREE
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
LOOK
IF HE CAN JUST GET OVER THAT BIT THEN MAYBE...

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE SOCKS.
WAIT...
HEY!! DON'T MOVE! I'M COMING TO GET YOU!!
IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY!
TOSS
I'M GOING UP THERE
!
UH.
OKAY...
TREMBLE
YUKI!
DID YOU HEAR ME?!
I SAID TO WAIT! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?!
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND ANY THING?
HEY! COME BACK!
ARROW
HEY!
PUT THAT ON AND WAIT HERE
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK
BYE
AZUMA
SORRY ABOUT THIS. WATCH OVER HIM, OKAY?
YOU CAN'T CLIMB

CLENCH
3A
WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?
IT'S YOUR FAULT
SLAM
ME ?
DAMN !
THUD

SLAM
!!
HUH?
I THOUGHT I SAW A SHADOW
SHUT UP!
YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING AGAIN!
LOOK OUT THERE!
IDIOT!
BE CAREFUL! UP THERE IS WHERE ALL THE DELINQUENTS HANG OUT
STEP
STEP
HEY DORM LEADER!
LISTEN!
I HAVEN'T
YOU'RE CRAZY!
THE GUY'S FROM 5TH AND 6TH GRADE
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
NO WAY!
HEY, SHIBA, ARE YOU SERIOUS?
I GET IT JUST GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM.
NIGHT!
WHAT A NIGHT
THIS HAPPENS ALL THE TIME
SLAM
GOOD GRIEF
SPLASH
SPLASH

...
XX
IT'S ONE HELL OF A WAY TO RUN
DAMN
IS HE GOING TO GET HERE IN TIME?
AH!
SLIP
WAAH!
I'LL HELP YOU
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE JUST ONE MORE STEP UP?
!!
HEY! HOW ARE YOU DOING DAMN BRAT?!
I HATE THIS KID
WHAT— WHAT ARE YOU ?
AZUMA IS COMING SO—
NO WAY!
!
ENOUGH ALREADY!
STOP WHINING OR YOU'RE GOING TO FALL...!!
CLIMB!
AH!
SHAKE
STEP ON MY SHOULDER AND TRY TO REACH THAT LEDGE OVER THERE
YOU CAN DO IT
IF I COULD I WOULD HAVE DONE IT ALREADY !!
DON'T BE SO STUPID!
SEE
I CAN'T REACH!
AH!
SLIP

WHY DID YOU HAVE TO BE SO HEAVY?
HUP!
PUSH
STOP CRYING.
NOW SLOWLY TAKE YOUR FOOT
OKAY
PANT
1
2
3!!
PANT
SLIP
PUSH
...
JUST JUST TAKE YOUR TIME
NOW'S IT GOING?
OW OW OW OW!
AH!
OKAY
I'M UP
HA
GREAT!
YOU DID GOOD!
I'M COMING UP NOW, SO JUST MOVE TO THE SIDE
GASP
CRACK
!!
IT'S SO SLIPPERY I ALMOST FELL.
DAMN, THAT WAS SCARY!
.....
!
GYX...

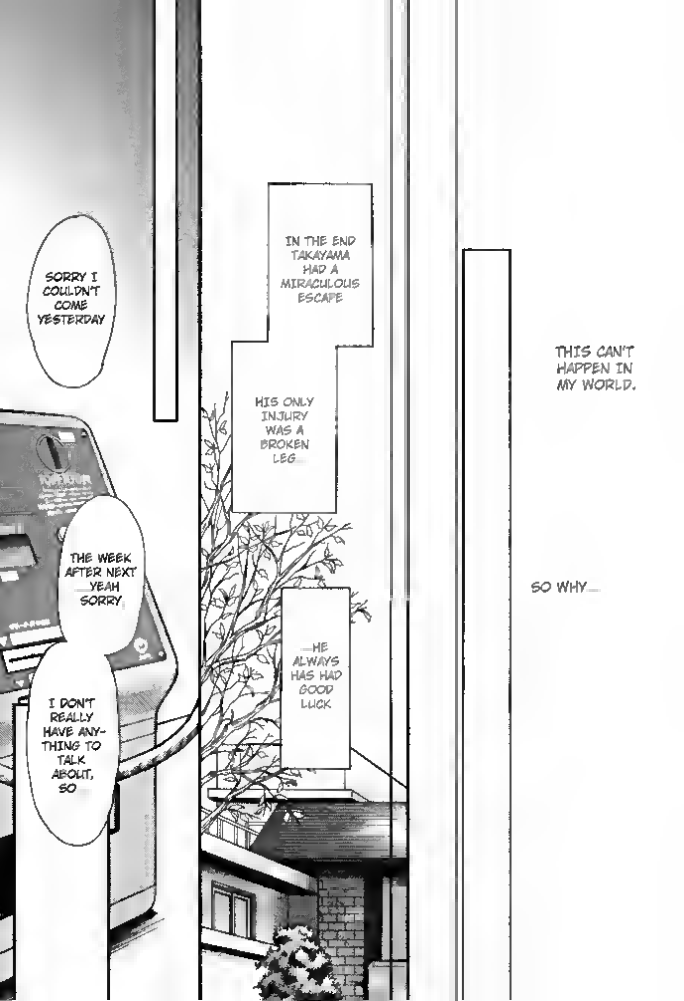
SMILE
!
DAMN BRAT
NEXT TIME, PICK A DIFFERENT WAY TO EXPRESS YOURSELF
OF COURSE IT HURTS !!!
ARE YOU MORONIC? JERK!
SQ SHOCK
AH!
YOUR FOOT
IT...
IT DOESN'T HURT, DOES IT?
UMM...
TAKA-YAMA.
YOU JUST CAN'T SAY NO TO DANGER, CAN YOU?
I TOLD YOU TO STAY PUT.
RAIN
YOU NEVER CHANGE...

JUST LIKE BEFORE, ABRUPTLY AND WITHOUT WARNING
IT ONLY TOOK 10 MINUTES FOR MY WORLD TO FALL APART...

FIRST I HAVE TO GET HIM OUT OF DANGER
THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING...
I'M OKAY, SO
SO TAKAYAMA SHOULD GO FIRST HIS FOOT IS INJURED...
STOP BEING STUPID AND GET UP ALREADY!!
SLAP
AH, UMM...
OKAY, GIVE ME YOUR HAND
AH!
THANK GOODNESS THE RAIN'S LETTING UP A BIT
TYPICAL
AZUMA
IT'S OKAY JUST TAKE MY HAND
YOU'LL DIE OF PNEUMONIA IF YOU STAY HERE MUCH LONGER
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT BOTH OF YOU HAVE ASTHMA TOO...
AH!
HUH?
SLIP
WAAH
?!
AAH!
SLICK

BE CARE-FUL...!
HEY!
HUH?
AND THEN...
STAGGER
JO ?!
...
UU...
WAAH !!

WHAT IS THERE TO BELIEVE IN NOW?
CRACK
JO!


THIS CAN'T HAPPEN IN MY WORLD.
SO WHY—
—HE ALWAYS HAS HAD GOOD LUCK
IN THE END TAKAYAMA HAD A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE
HIS ONLY INJURY WAS A BROKEN LEG—
SORRY I COULDN'T COME YESTERDAY
THE WEEK AFTER NEXT —YEAH SORRY
I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY-THING TO TALK ABOUT, SO—

RING
HELLO, SEIRAN DORMS
CLICK
AH, TAKAYAMA IS CURRENTLY IN THE HOSPITAL SO...
HUH?
HIS FATHER?!
OH, UMM.
JU JUST A MOMENT
I'LL GO GET THE THE DORM LEADER
HELLO? EXCUSE ME FOR INTRUDING
I'M TAKAYAMA'S ROOMMATE
AZUMA?!
SORRY!
WHAT?
HE WANTS TO QUIT SCHOOL...?
HE SAID THAT?

TAN-EI HOSPITAL
HEY! YOU'RE ACTUALLY NOT DEAD!
YOUR HEAD MUST BE PRETTY MESSED UP.
IF YOU'RE ALIVE CAN YOU STILL RECOGNIZE ME?
WHAT'S 1+1? HOW MANY FINGERS?
I'M FINE
BOTH ARE 2.
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINKING? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DID THAT!
AH!
TO FALL FROM THERE...
YOU ALWAYS, ALWAYS MAKE OTHERS WORRY ABOUT YOU!
AND YOU JUST...
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE OKAY!
I'M SORRY
YOU COULD HAVE DIED. IDIOT!
I BROUGHT THE CULPRIT WITH ME
GET IN HERE!
HUH?

YUKI...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK SO MORTIFIED
SEE! NOW APOLOGIZE PROPERLY!
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR CAUSING YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE TAKAYAMA.
REALLY I AM.
SINCE I'M HIS ROOM-MATE I ALSO WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU I'M REALLY SORRY.
TAKA-YAMA!
OH!
I WOULD HAVE STOPPED HIM IF I'D KNOWN.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, KURACHI...
YOU TOO YUKI.
I'LL BE LEAVING THE HOSPITAL IN A WEEK ANYWAY...
YOU'RE SO SERIOUS!
NO!
IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT CAN BE LEFT UNSAID.
IT'S MUCH BETTER TO APOLOGIZE AND CLEAR THINGS UP ONCE AND FOR ALL!
HONEST-LY...
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT THOUGH

WHAT IS IT?
UNFORTUNATELY IT'S A BIT TORN UP NOW BUT...
OH! HIS LEATHER JACKET!
OPEN

OH! BY THE WAY
CAN YOU GIVE THIS BACK TO AZUMA?
GRAB

TIME DOESN'T SOLVE ANYTHING BY ITSELF
IT'S TRUE
WELL, YEAH, BUT...
WHAT'S WITH YOU? WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY SO DOCILE?
ARE YOU SURE YOUR HEAD'S ALL RIGHT?

...NOT REALLY, THANKS FOR VISITING ME
SURE I'LL GIVE IT BACK TO HIM.
IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANTED? ANYTHING AT ALL?
SITS UP

KURACHI!
DON'T BE SILLY! WE'RE FRIENDS, RIGHT?
TAKAYAMA!

SIGH
HE NEVER CAME
IT'S BASICALLY BECAUSE I WAS WEARING THIS THAT I WAS SAVED.
I WANTED TO GIVE IT BACK TO HIM MYSELF BUT...
HE'LL PROBABLY KILL ME ANYWAY

BE QUIET! DON'T MAKE SO MUCH FUSS INSIDE A HOSPITAL
CLACK CLACK
HEY!!
JERK! DON'T JUST SCRAWL RANDOM STUFF!
DAMN! HE'S TOO FAST!
YAY! I'M THE FIRST!
SO TO COMMEMORATE THIS OCCASION ♡
WOW! I WANT TO BE A PATIENT HERE TOO
OW OW OW OW!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY KEY? GEEZ!
IT'S NOT ALL BAD
I'LL BE BACK SOON TO TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE TAKAYAMA.
I'M TAKING THE PATIENT'S THEIR MEDICINE.
'KEY
KODM FOR PATIENTS
REALLY?
TO BE HONEST, SINCE KIDO'S BACK I WASN'T PLANNING ON RETURNING.
ANYWAY, COME BACK SOON EVERYONE'S BEEN WORRIED
AND THE SOCCER TEAM SUCKS WITHOUT YOU
NO WAY!
DON'T BE CRAZY
IT'S GOING TO BE GREAT!

HE'S BEEN REALLY WEIRD LATELY...
TAKAYAMA TOO
I WONDER WHY AZUMA DIDN'T COME TO VISIT TAKAYAMA.
HE WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT HIM.
ICK! IT'S SO CREEPY!
YOU'RE LIKE ONE OF AZUMA'S CRAZY FANBOYS, AREN'T YOU?
YOU'RE 2 YEARS YOUNGER, TOO
WE SHOULDN'T INTERFERE
ANYWAY IT'S PROBABLY JUST A QUARREL
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? THAT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY!
HE WHAT?!
WHEN HE WAS ON THE PHONE.
HUH? BUT AZUMA SAID...
HUH?
TAKAYAMA'S QUITTING SCHOOL
IT'S TRUE!

BAMM
WRITE

...WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?! WHY THE HELL ARE YOU SPREADING RUMORS...
THAT TAKAYAMA'S GOING TO QUIT SCHOOL?!

HIS FATHER TOLD ME WHEN HE CALLED EARLIER
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT
HIS FATHER ?!
AND?! YOU CAN'T PRETEND THIS ISN'T YOUR FAULT!
EVER SINCE THE ACCIDENT YOU'VE BEEN PISSED AT HIM!
RIGHT?
THAT'S NOT TRUE
WHY ELSE WOULD ...?!
SLAP
SHUT UP!!

WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU?
DON'T JUST BLAME ME FOR EVERY-THING!!
IF NOT, THEN IT MUST BE THE SCHOOL!
IT'S A PROBLEM BETWEEN HIM AND HIS FATHER!
BAM
SLAM
YOU'RE A COMPLETE JERK!
GOD! WILL YOU JUST LISTEN TO YOUR-SELF!!
!
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT...
HE CAME BACK JUST FOR YOU!
YOU'RE HIS ROOMMATE, HIS CLASS-MATE AND YOU USED TO BE HIS BEST FRIEND!!

...IT'S SO LIKE AZUMA TO SAY SOMETHING COMPLETELY INFURIATING.
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT AZUMA SCARES ME.
HE GLARES AT YOU CONTEMPTUOUSLY.
THE ATMOSPHERE AROUND HIM IS FRIGID.
EVEN HIS VOICE IS SCARY
YOU'RE OLDER THAN HE IS, RIGHT?
REALLY?
HUH? NO WAY!
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON?
THEN YOU GO ASK HIM.
OW!
HEY, KURACHI, WHAT'S WRONG?
DID AZUMA SAY SOMETHING?
LIKE, I CARE!!
GO ASK HIM YOURSELF!
STOMP STOMP
DAMN!
STUPID AZUMA!
WHAT ABOUT IT?

I HAVEN'T SLEPT FOR TWO NIGHTS...
SO WHAT IS IT... THAT YOU WANT ME TO DO?
JUST USE YOUR COMMON SENSE AND SAY NO TO TAKAYAMA.
YOU HATE THIS AS MUCH AS I DO RIGHT?
COM-MON SENSE
SOMEHOW, I DON'T THINK IT APPLIES TO TAKAYAMA.
DO YOU THINK HE'LL REALLY QUIT?
NO WAY!
TO BE HONEST, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT GUY'S THINKING
MAYBE AZUMA WILL ACTUALLY BE FORCED TO COMPROMISE FOR ONCE...
AZUMA...?
HE'S ANOTHER ONE I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND.
EH?
WHERE IS AZUMA GOING?
IT'S A SECRET.
IT'S GREAT BEING YOUNG.

HE'S BEING RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL TODAY
YOU DIDN'T EVEN VISIT HIM ONCE.
I'VE BEEN PRETTY BUSY TOO BUT EVEN I COULD SPEND 10 MINUTES WITH HIM.
THERE WASN'T ANY REASON FOR ME TO GO. WHEN HE COMES BACK TO THE DORMS WE'LL BE TOGETHER ALL THE TIME ANYWAY.
...
...BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO LAST MUCH LONGER
HIS FATHER IS COMING TODAY
I'VE HEARD THAT HE MIGHT BE COMING TO TAKE HIM AWAY.
IT'S LIKE YOU SAID. THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ANYMORE
.....

HE PROBABLY JUST WANTED TO SEE HIS FATHER
TURN
WHAT?
THAT'S NOT FAIR!
THE STAFF HAVE COMMANDEERED THE SHOWER ROOMS?
BUT THEY WERE ONLY JUST REBUILT
THE RED ZONES ARE THE GIRLS' CHANGE ROOMS
PROTECT CHANGE ROOMS
WHAT ABOUT THIS?
I GUESS SO
FOR P.E.
WE SHOULD ARRANGE A FRIENDLY MATCH WITH THE UNIVERSITY IT DOESN'T MATTER WHEN
THIS TERM IT'S BECOME RIDICULOUS IT'LL PROBABLY BE BETTER WHEN THE 3RD YEARS LEAVE
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
I'M GOING TO THE UNIVERSITY
I'LL SEE YOU LATER!
DO YOUR BEST!
GOOD LUCK WITH THE BABES OVER THERE!
OH! THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S THE MONTHLY OPEN DAY
EH? ISN'T THAT KURACHI?
THAT IDIOT!
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!

HE'S SUPPOSED TO HELP WITH THE GUIDED TOURS OF THE BOY'S FACULTY...
IT'S ODD THAT HE HASN'T SHOWN UP YET...
GUIDE FOR THE GIRL'S FACULTY
DO YOU KNOW WHERE AZUMA IS?
HUH?!
YES?
OH MR JIN
YOU'RE A 4TH YEAR, RIGHT?
HAVE YOU HEARD ANY-THING KURA-CHI?
DON'T TELL ME HE...
AH...
UH WELL, HE SUDDENLY FELT SICK SO...
SICK?!
NO UMM... WELL...
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TAKE THE TOUR?
THIS IS VERY IRRITA-TING.
I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO DO...
HEAD-MASTER
YOU?
YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH EXPERI-ENCE
CAN YOU DO THE TOUR IN ENGLISH?
I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T VERY GOOD IN ENGLISH
HA HA
ACTU-ALLY, THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE
AH!
SO HE SENT ME IN HIS PLACE

THEN I'LL BE BACK IN A MINUTE... I JUST NEED TO CHANGE MY CLOTHES
SAKURAI ?
THANK GOODNESS... YOU'LL DO FINE...
TAN-EI HOSPITAL
I'LL TAKE OVER FROM HERE!
JUST TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT LATER...
DON'T MENTION IT...
THANKS !

TAKAYAMA, ARE YOU READY TO LEAVE?
YUP.
ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE OKAY BY YOURSELF?
IT'S NOT FAR EITHER.
IT DOESN'T MATTER BECAUSE I'M GOING IN A CAR ANY-WAY.
OH!

GOODNESS... ARE YOU LEAVING ALREADY?
YEAH, FOR NOW...
BUT I'LL BE COMING BACK! I'M GOING TO BE REVIEWED LATER.
GOOD LUCK!
!

OH! IS THIS YOUR FRIEND? THAT'S WONDERFUL
AZUMA? WHY...
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SHE NEEDED HELP.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I... YOU SHOULD BE AT SCHOOL!
ON A SUNNY DAY LIKE THIS?
ARE YOU KIDDING? LET'S JUST TAKE IT EASY AND CALL IT REHAB
HERE YOU GO. THIS IS HIS LUGGAGE
THERE'S ALSO A TAXI COMING- NUMBER 241.
THANKS.
WAIT...
STEP STEP
DON'T LOOK SO SHOCKED. COME ON, LET'S GO

SIGH
I NEVER REALIZED HOW EXHALISTING IS WAS TO MOVE AROUND OUTSIDE
HUH
KIDO IS AMAZING TO MANAGE THIS
I'M SO WOOMED!
I M BEAT ALREADY
DO YOU WANT TEA OR A SOFT-DRINK
SOFT-DRINK I GUESS
THANKS
SO WAS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANTED TO SAY TO ME?
YOU ONLY EVER DRINK TEA
NOT REALLY
CHINK
WHY...
DON'T YOU GET RIGHT TO THE POINT?
UMM ARE YOU OKAY WITH YOUR LEG AND ALL?
I KNOW YOU WERE RELEASED, BUT
I ALMOST DIED BACK THERE

EVEN IF I HADN'T, I STILL COULD HAVE ENDED UP IN A WHEEL-CHAIR FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE...
DON'T YOU EVEN CARE ABOUT THAT?
I'M SORRY...
REALLY...
I WOULD GIVE ANY-THING TO CHANGE WHAT HAPPENED...
I WISH IT HAD BEEN ME, NOT YOU...
WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU...?
AH...
IT'S OKAY... YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT
AFTER ALL I WAS THE ONE WHO MESSED UP YOU...
NO IT WAS A CONSEQUENCE OF MY BEHAVIOR
IT'S MY FAULT ALONE...

KURACHI EVEN WENT PSYCHO AT ME
HE'S A GOOD KID.
HA HA
I ALWAYS SCREW UP.
I DESPERATELY WANTED TO APOLOGIZE, BUT I COULDN'T FIND THE COURAGE TO FACE YOU.
WHEN I FOUND OUT YOU WERE OKAY, I WAS THANKFUL TO THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART
HE'S ALWAYS SO HONEST
AND UNCOMPLICATED TOO
IT'S AMAZING REALLY.
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO CHANGE SCHOOLS?
YOUR FATHER TOLD ME AS MUCH.
AND THE COUNTY TOO?
HUH? OH— THAT—
WE NEED TO TALK THIS TIME.

I NEED TO SAY IT!
LOOK, WILL YOU STOP WITH THAT ALREADY?!
THAT
HUH?
IT'S REALLY ALL MY FAULT.
BECAUSE YOU DON'T NEED TO GO ANYWHERE
NO. I NEED YOU TO HEAR IT!
I'M SO SORRY FOR CALLING YOU AN EYESORE!
I'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT.
YOU COULD HAVE DIED! YOU COULD HAVE REALLY DIED!
I HEARD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN THE SCHOOL SHOOTING IN VIRGINIA.
YOU KNEW ABOUT THAT?
THEN WHY

...I'M NOT LYING TO YOU.
I'VE NEVER HATED YOU. NOT EVER.
BACK THEN WAS THE HAPPIEST TIME OF MY LIFE
YOU!
I REALLY WANT TO BELIEVE YOU, BUT...
YEAH
IT'S GOING TO BE 2 MONTHS OR SO BEFORE MY LEG HEALS
—YEAH
I JUST CAN'T BEAR IF YOU'RE GOING TO IGNORE ME AGAIN
OR IF YOU KEEP LOOKING SO MISERABLE AROUND ME
I PROBABLY CAN'T CHANGE THE WAY I LOOK
BUT I'LL TRY MY HARDEST
YOU'LL TRY...
.....

—SHALL WE START WITH JUST TRYING TO BE FRIENDS?
SWIPE
SOME-WHERE BETWEEN BEING LOVED
AND BEING HATED
GOOD GRIEF! THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS!
WHY ARE WE EVEN TALKING ABOUT THIS?
...
STEP

HA HA HA
UMM...
IS IT A WEAPON?
WHAT'S THAT THING?
PRAY WE'RE IN A PARK
IT'S A CAST
SHOCK
HEY!
WHAT'S THIS FOR?
YOU LOOK LIKE A ROBOT
LISTEN BRAT...
THIS.
YOU CAUGHT ME! IT'S MY WEAPON
WANT TO SEE?
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
SMASH
TOSS
WOW!!
CLANK
SHOOT!!
ALUMINIUM CAN ROCKET!!

WHAM
FLYING BILLIARD!
WOW
CLAP CLAP CLAP
THUNK
ERM
SHOW ME AGAIN! AGAIN! AGAIN!
THAT'S SO COOL! SO COOL!
WHAT-YAE
HA HA HA
I'M SO SORRY HE WAS BOTHERING YOU
NO NO TOMO!
NO! I WANT YAE TO TRY IT!
YAE
OH!
SHUT UP! WE'RE GOING HOME!
YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD WITH THIS, EH? ♪
AREN'T YOU GOING TO DO IT AGAIN?
TURN
HEY ISN'T TODAY FRIDAY?
THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH?
WHAT? YEAH
IT'S JOHOKO'S OPEN DAY!
DAMN! I COMPLETELY FORGOT!
DOOM
ACK
?
WHAT'S WRONG?
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO GO HOME?
YEAH BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GO BACK NOW...

HUH?
DAD?
HERE? BUT HE'S NOT EVEN IN JAPAN
HE'S IN SEOUL ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS.
HE'S ALWAYS REALLY BUSY.
WHAT?
I DON'T KNOW WHY—
CAN'T BELIEVE HE FELL FOR THAT
KURA-CHI'
I KNEW YOU WANTED TO SEE HIM! ♡
YOU'RE ADORABLE
HE
BAST-ARD!
YOU—
HI, TASU-KU! ♪
WELCOME BACK!
THANKS
SORRY CAPTAIN
FOR EVERY THING.
TAKAYAMA, CONGRATULATIONS ON ESCAPING THE HOSPITAL ♡

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
PAT
GRIT
WHAT HAPPENED WAS ENTIRELY MY FAULT. I'M SORRY. PLEASE FORGIVE ME
SMILE
WELL AZUMA?
BUT WHAT WILL WE DO NOW THAT TAKAYAMA IS INJURED?
RIGHT?
UH— NO THAT
HUH?
YOU'RE A GREAT RUNNER!
BY THE WAY. DO YOU WANT TO JOIN THE SOCCER TEAM?
WE STILL HAVE PLENTY OF MATCHES TO GO!
ARE YOU OKAY GETTING UP TO THE 3RD FLOOR? WE COULD MOVE YOU INTO A ROOM ON THE 1ST FLOOR IF YOU LIKE
SO WHAT'S IT LIKE BACK AT THE DORMS?
I'LL JUST SEE HOW THINGS GO
REALLY ?
OH? SO TASUKU'S HERE
WE'RE NEVER GOING TO GET DINNER IF THIS CONTINUES
TASUKU! YOU'RE BEING UNFAIR! DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!
IF YOU JOIN ANYTHING, IT HAS TO BE THE RUGBY TEAM!
PUSH
RUGBY!
HEY! DON'T RUN WITH THE SAUCE, FANS!
PUSH
IT'S THE BEST!
I'M NOT INTERESTED

AHH
NAH!
...THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING HE PRETTY MUCH KNOWS EVERYTHING ANYWAY
SMILE
...YOU'RE PRETTY CHEERFUL!
DID YOU WORK OUT ALL YOUR PROBLEMS?
...ACTUALLY
WE STILL HAVEN'T WORKED OUT A [illegible] THING.
BUT NOW WE KNOW WHERE WE STAND...
SO THAT'S SOMETHING I GUESS...
HA HA
EXCELLENT!!
WELL THEN, DO YOUR BEST!
THUMP
OW!
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ANYMORE!
TAKAYAMA'S HEAD

.....
I GUESS...
3A
ALMOST TWO MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE I CAME TO JOHOKU...

IF I LOOKED BACK, THE SAME AMOUNT OF TIME HAD PASSED WHEN IT HAPPENED
I'M COMING!
YOU WORRY TOO MUCH!
YOU'RE STILL HERE? WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING?
THE EVENING SERVICE STARTS IN 7 MINUTES
WE HAVE TO HURRY!

See you next Stage!!

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Demian Syndrome.

credits chapter #6

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